

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

The following were also in attendance: Vickie Ziemba, Administrator/Clerk; Cherise Crable, Clerical Assistant; Randal Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor; Lee Tansey, Engineer; Roger Hunker, Lyme Township Trustee/APEX; Brad Mesenburg, Citizen; Sheila Poffenbaugh, Citizen; Shylee Greszler, Norwalk Ohio News; Jacobi Greszler, Citizen; Brian Gott, Norwalk Reflector.

23-209

IN THE MATTER OF CERTIFYING CLAIMS SCHEDULE FOR PAYMENT BATCHES TO THE HURON COUNTY AUDITOR FOR PAYMENT:

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, as per Ohio Revised Code 305.10, a resolution must be made by the Board of Huron County Commissioners to accompany the Claims Schedule to the Huron County Auditor's Office for payment; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby approve the Claim Register Payment Batch #360555 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

*Discussion:

- Pg. 2, Principal and Interest for Court of Appeals. Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziemba how it compared to last year. She said she would be able to let him know later.
• Page 3, ES Consulting bills. Mr. Boose would like to see if Ms. Stebel can get a vendor total for ES Consulting so far this year. There is also one on page 4.
• Page 9, EMA website. Mr. Boose noted that we are paying Ms. Bond for this, so she is probably using her credit card. Mr. Boose would like to have Mr. Riedy look into this to see if we can change the process.

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

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

Huron County
Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Dates, Warrant Numbers, Fund, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for various departments like Commissioners, Treasurer, Human Resources, and Juvenile.

Table with columns: Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for various claimants like Women Wellness, Clerk of Courts, Coroner, Police Muni Court, and Capital Improvements.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for items like 'Norwalk Ave Hardware', 'Norwalk Ave Hardware', 'Norwalk Ave Hardware', etc.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for items like 'Miles T Mail', 'Miles T Mail', 'Miles T Mail', etc.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for items like 'Coral One', 'Coral One', 'Coral One', etc.

Claims Register for Payment Batches

Table with columns: Warrant Date, Claimant, Batch ID, PO #/Line #, Line Description, Amount, Warrant #. Includes entries for items like 'Charter Communications', 'Charter Communications', 'Charter Communications', etc.

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

*Contract on file

23-211

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-21-1BJ-1 (DRAW #13) AND B-C-21-1BJ-2 (DRAW #2) SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD JUNE 20, 2023

Bruce Wilde 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Ms. Ziemba stated B-C-21-1BJ-1 is for general administration in the amount of \$3,281.00. B-C-21-1BJ-2 is for private rehab at a home in Norwalk for \$2,905. Ms. Ziemba stated this was a partial.

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

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

State of Ohio
Office of Community Development
Request for Payment and Status of Funds request

Submit to: Development Services Agency Office of Community Development P.O. Box 1001 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001		Name and Address of Grantee: Huron County Commissioners 120 Milton Ave Norwalk, Ohio 44857		CDWG E.E. RLF Balance: CDWG Housing P.J. Balance: Home Program Income Balance			
Contact Person Information Name: Shari Zibert Phone number: (419) 332-4130 Email: szibert@cap.org		Grant Number: B-C-21-1BJ-1		Date:			
		Draw Number: 13		Voucher# WV000000			
Project NBR	Project Name	Activity NBR	Activity Name	Housing Site Address (if applicable)	Amount Requested	Approved Activity/Site Budget (\$)	Balance of Activity/Site Budget (\$)
2	Administration/Fair Housing	2	General Admin		3281.00	123500.00	41441.00
Total Amount of this Draw:					3281.00	123500.00	41441.00
Certification of Itemization of Expenditures: Two Authorized Signatures are Required							
I certify that this request for Payment was drawn in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement(s) cited and that the amount drawn is proper for payment to the drawer's depository. I also certify that the data reported above is correct and the amount of the request for Payment is not in excess of current needs.							
Date: 6/20/2023		Signature: <i>Harry Brady</i>		Title: PRESIDENT			
Date: 6/20/2023		Countersignature: <i>Terry Boose</i>		Title: Vice President			
State Use Only: Approved:							

23-212

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REQUESTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF OVER \$5,000.00 SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD JUNE 20, 2023

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, requests for expenditures of over \$5,000.00 have been submitted for approval by the Board of Huron County Commissioners as follows:

JFS

Ohio TSSP	Replace outdated Surface Pros	\$10,242.90	now therefore
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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves of the requests for expenditure of over \$5,000.00 as listed above; 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Mr. Boose thought they wouldn't get too many of them and assumed they would be getting them through the state. Ms. Ziemba stated they were getting 30 of them. Mr. Boose noted they were also ordering some I-pad type computers for seniors and would have some training courses to use them. They will be working together with Senior Enrichment.

Ms. Ziemba stated these are to replace the current employee computers. The state said that the ones the employees are currently using are being phased out and they are being required to replace them with these.

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

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

23-213

IN THE MATTER OF APPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE COMMON PLEAS COMPUTER FUND #139

Bruce Wilde moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners being in receipt of an Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources for the Common Pleas Computer Fund #139 in the amount of \$51,140.00; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Board of Huron County Commissioners to appropriate these funds to the Common Pleas Computer Fund #139; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves of the appropriation as follows:

TO: 139-139-00475	Other Expenses	\$51,140.00	and further
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BE IT RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Huron County Auditor and the department requesting the appropriation; and further

BE IT RESOLVED 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Ms. Ziemba explained this was due to the receipt of State Opioid Response grant funds. Mr. Boose asked if the Budget Commission had to meet every time an Amended Certificate is requested and noted they are having a meeting tomorrow morning. He was not sure if it was for the one we requested. Ms. Ziemba stated we have not requested it yet. Mr. Boose asked if Ms. Ziemba or Ms. Crable would send a note to the Budget Commission to ask the purpose of the meeting tomorrow.

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

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

Resolution 23-214 was held until Kari Smith; Board of DD could be present.

23-215

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING BID AND ENTERING INTO CONTRACT FOR THE HURON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ELEVATOR PROJECT

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution 23-165, and as amended by Resolution 23-180, the Board of Huron County Commissioners authorized the advertisement and letting of bids for the Huron County Administration Building Elevator Project, in accordance with Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements are to be funded through the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds awarded to the County and American Rescue Plan – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“ARPA Funds”); and

WHEREAS, per legal counsel, the pre-bid meeting requirements were waived, however each contractor was required to visit the site and review the scope of the project and the existing conditions; and

WHEREAS, bids were received Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. from the following:

TK Elevator Corporation	\$193,000.00	
Comte Construction Co.	\$498,000.00	
Sona Construction, LLC	\$479,000.00	
BC&G Weithman	\$534,600.00	and

WHEREAS, these bids have been reviewed by Garmann Miller (Architect) as to their compliance with applicable terms and conditions of the bid with a recommendation that such bid be awarded to SONA Construction, LLC; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners has waived the pre-bid meeting requirement as set forth in the bid documents, but insisted that each contractor be required to visit the site and review the scope of the project and the existing conditions; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby reject the bid of TK Elevator Corporation because the bid was incomplete as to the scope of the project; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, based upon the recommendation of Garmann Miller, the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby award the bid for the Huron County Administration Building Elevator Project to SONA Construction, LLC in the amount of \$479,000.00 and further authorizes and directs the execution of the contract related to said project, as attached hereto and expressly incorporated by reference 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Mr. Boose thanked Ms. Ziemba for all the hours it took to get us to today. Mr. Brady noted the bid from TK Elevator Corporation was rejected because it was incomplete.

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

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

**Contract on file*

SIGNINGS –

Mr. Brady noted they had a Satisfaction of Lien for Timothy Tucker of Huron County; a payment of \$4,954.05 was made.

Bruce Wilde moved to sign the Satisfaction of Lien for Timothy Tucker. Terry Boose seconded the motion.

****Discussion:*** Ms. Ziemba stated this was for some one who had received CHIP Funds and they either paid off, sold, or refinanced. This money will go into the program income line and can be used for another

CHIP project.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

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

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



HURON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Terry Boose * Harry Brady * Bruce "Skip" Wilde
Vickie Ziembra, Administrator/Clerk



E-PU Commission
IP PR AN X

Instr: 2023062300022995 4183833
Page: 1 F: \$0.00 10:11 AM
Jan M. Tkach T20230606409
Huron County Recorder DISP: PKUP

SATISFACTION OF LIEN

This is to Certify, that the conditions of a certain lien bearing the date of March 1, 2012, given by Timothy A. Tucker to Huron County to secure the payment of \$4,954.05, and recorded original in Volume 672 Page 587-588, of Huron County Records, for a total of \$4,954.05 has been fully complied with, and the same is hereby satisfied and discharged.

Signed this 20 day of June, 2023.

In presence of:
Terry Boose
Witness

Huron County Board of Commissioners
Harry Brady
Harry Brady, President

THE STATE OF OHIO)
COUNTY OF HURON)

Before me a Notary Public in and for said County, personally appeared the above named Harry Brady, and acknowledge that he did sign the foregoing instrument, and that the same is his free act and deed, this 20 day of June, 2023.



CHERISE M. CRABLE
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires
December 5, 2023

Cherise M. Crable
NOTARY PUBLIC

Prepared by: Valerie Stibel, Administrative Assistant, Huron County Commissioners.

180 Milan Avenue, Suite 7, Norwalk, Ohio 44857-1195
419-868-2692 * 800-808-5092 * Fax: 419-863-3370
Email: info@hocommissioners.com
www.hocommissioners.com

IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL –

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

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

- Lara Hozalski – HR – Bellville, Oh – CLCCA Summer Meeting – July 14, 2023

Mr. Boose stated he needs a travel request for the Thursday and Friday of Summer Conference. Mr. Brady stated he is going to the conference Wednesday through Friday.

Mr. Brady asked Ms. Ziembra if she had anything else. Ms. Ziembra stated it has come to her attention that July 4 is on a Tuesday, so we need to officially cancel the meeting for that day. Ms. Ziembra noted the claims schedule would be done on Thursday.

Bruce Wilde moved to cancel the July 4, 2023 meeting. Terry Boose seconded the motion.

****Discussion:*** Mr. Boose asked what was happening on the 3rd. Ms. Ziembra stated as far as she knew most downtown offices were closed. Mr. Boose asked if they were paid days off. Ms. Ziembra stated she would assume so, but did not ask and did not take the phone calls. Mr. Brady felt if people had time off available and want to use their personal time off on Monday he has no problem with it as long as they are using their personal time. Mr. Boose felt it is up to the Elected Official and in our case, the commissioners do not have to approve every one of those, we have people underneath us who do that and the proper channels need to be followed if people want to take that day off then they need to. Ms. Ziembra asked the commissioners if everyone in the office wanted to take off, are they fine with closing the office for the day, as long as everyone is taking their own time or do you want the offices to stay open. Mr. Brady felt if the offices are going to be closed they should let the public know as far in advance as possible. Ms. Ziembra just wanted to know if it was okay with the commissioners for them to close their offices. Mr. Boose would prefer to leave them open. Mr. Wilde felt if everybody is gone, then they are gone. Mr. Brady stated if any of offices under them were closed he would like the information to be put out as soon as possible. Mr. Boose stated that we need

to find out from Mr. Welch whether the Transfer Station will be open. He hoped it would be because there are still businesses working on Monday. Mr. Brady stated if someone is willing to work in our office on Monday it would be appreciated, but if everyone wants to take the day off then they take the day.

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

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

At 9:30 a.m. Alex McCoy, HCDC - Economic Development update & Better Together Project. Also present, Dave Weisenburger, HCDC Board Chairman.

Mr. McCoy pulled up a power point presentation and thanked the commissioners for allowing him to come in to speak and give an update for HCDC. Mr. McCoy said they are the Community Improvement Corporation as designated by Huron County and are a 501c3 not for profit corporation and are located in the Huron County Administration Building.

They are working to set up a Familiarization Tour in Willard. They are working with the Willard City Manager to bring in representatives from Team NEO and Jobs Ohio. They are currently trying to target the touring of 4 plants all on the same day. Pepperidge Farms, Star of the West, Lakeside Books and Stanley/Black and Decker. They would give an opportunity for local officials to interact with our partners from Team NEO and Jobs Ohio to discuss future plans they have for their community. Mr. McCoy stated when the day has been scheduled he will reach out to the commissioners to give them an opportunity to come and potentially partner with us to arrange transportation. Mr. McCoy thought we have access to some busses which go around the county. Mr. Boose asked if we could get the size of the busses needed when we get the details.

Mr. McCoy reminded the commissioners that they are partnering with Erie County to complete a CEDS project, which is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. One is required to be done every 4 years in order to access funding from the Economic Development Administration, a Federal Agency which falls under the Commerce Department. Mr. McCoy stated the commissioners had appointed Mr. Wilde to represent them. Mr. McCoy said he received an e-mail this morning which he forwarded to Mr. Wilde. It states that June 29th is confirmed and all three consultants will be there who have bid on the project. Mr. McCoy wanted to let us know that the project is moving forward and hopefully by the end of this month they will have selected a consultant to lead the community through the project. He thought that in almost all of the proposals, January to February was listed as the timeframe to complete the CEDS project and present it to the EDA for their approval.

Mr. Boose noted that when the CEDS was brought to us for the first time Mr. McCoy explained what it was for and the need for it to help get grants. Mr. Boose said that at the time Erie County was actively looking into this and to get money they needed a regional group. We then joined in with them. Mr. Boose wants to make sure that we are not just here so Erie County gets more economic development money. He feels we have 3 huge economic development issues before us today. They are transportation, childcare and housing. Mr. Boose would like that to be kept in the back of their mind as we start moving forward. Even though we did not have a plan going into this, we need to get our fair share from it and not just do it for Erie County's sake. Mr. McCoy agreed and added that the CEDS is a requirement to receive funds from the EDA. The EDA typically funds infrastructure improvements to local governments in the form of grants. Usually the grants require you to have a private company who has made a commitment to come in. In transportation he has seen them give funds for transportation and roadwork changes which need to be made. The biggest one he has seen was in Georgia and they gave \$80M to an ethanol plant. It was being built in the middle of railroad tracks and they did many fingers all around it because they were going to be bringing in the corn from the Midwest and EDA helped pay for an overpass to be built over that so the trucks did not have to try to navigate the trains. Mr. McCoy thought Mr. Boose was referring more to mass transit and said he would be happy to sit down and talk about it. Mr. Boose just wanted to make sure we have our plans and needs addressed.

HCDC is the contract administrator for the Land Reutilization Corporation which is also a 501c3. Mr. McCoy want to provide updates on the Ohio Department of Development grants for demolition and Brownfield Remediation. They should be starting the residential demos any day for the remaining contaminated properties. They went back to get enhancements made to the original environmental reports for some of the properties. Most notably for some of the downtown properties in Willard. 5,7, 9 and 11 Myrtle Ave. should all be coming down. All of them should be down by the end of September.

Mr. McCoy said on the Brownfield side, there were 2 Brownfield sites that were identified and approved for funding by the Governor's office. One being the old gas station by Pizza Cravin in downtown Norwalk. As part of the residential demolitions our contractor will be taking down the kiosk building while they are here they will be taking down some buildings in Norwalk. He thought one was on Old State Street and he was not sure of the other address. The other Brownfield grant is for the old Greyhound bus terminal across from H & B Hops. Mr. McCoy stated they had contractors out there abating the asbestos this morning.

Mr. McCoy said for the upcoming ODOD programs, both the Senate and the House have included funding in their budget. This program will be renewed. He doesn't know the final language yet but have been told by reliable sources that in the Senate version of the bill it requires the county commissioners to be the applicants for the ODOD grants and that they are able to subcontract with entities. Mr. McCoy wanted to put us on notice that the Huron County Land Bank is very likely to want to have a conversation with the commissioners in the very near future about pursuing additional funding to continue the demolitions and Brownfield Remediations and would like to be considered as our contract agent for that project.

Mr. Boose wanted to commend Mr. McCoy, HCDC, the board and the Land Bank for what they have done. He feels they have done great things and keep moving forward. He also feels they are well thought out plans, which make wise use of the money. Mr. Boose does not understand why they gave this to the commissioners, as opposed to the Land Banks. In Mr. Boose's opinion, he likes to see the money go to the people who are doing the work, looking at it and analyzing. Mr. McCoy stated you never know what is in someone else's mind, but feels they must have some type of rationalization behind what they are trying to do. He thought that in the original legislation for this year it was very broad. Mr. McCoy stated that someone shared with him that any public citizen or public entity could apply for that funding and he thought they were just trying to reign that in to make sure whoever is coming in is known and reputable to that community. Also, that person is someone who the leading public officials in the community would be willing to endorse.

Mr. Boose was not sure that all counties have a land bank. Mr. McCoy agreed. Mr. Boose then added that someone has to make a decision for the counties who do not have a Land Bank. Mr. McCoy said the Land Bank allowed both he and his assistant, Judy Lykins to attend the State Association Conference this year in Dayton. Mr. McCoy noted that it was said several times in that meeting that there are 66 Counties in Ohio who have Land Banks.

Better Together project. Mr. McCoy stated that sometimes it is better to have a clearly defined picture or a road map to show multiple groups activities what could be done to make a community more competitive for private business investment or to attract residents. Particularly ones who have skill sets and could participate in our local labor force. Community and economic development can be incredibly abstract. Mr. McCoy compared it to the Book of Revelation. You have 9 or 10 things all going on at the same time and it makes it difficult to understand what the Lord wanted us to take from it. So, having a clearly defined road map that could impact the program, which works at multiple groups and organizations and political subdivisions. So that we could better work in harmony towards the same goals. Not being counterproductive to one another becomes very important to organize, for effective communication and for identifying resources, including volunteers and making sure we are all pulling in the same direction. That is what the HCDC Board is interested in doing with the Better Together Project. Mr. McCoy thought his experience with projects to bring people together had set him apart.

Mr. McCoy stated the key to leading people through this begins with not evaluating what you love. Who can't be objective when you do it. He went on to say that bringing in an outside person to help start a conversation and listen to different groups wants and needs is important. The HCDC Board of Directors asked Mr. McCoy to paint a picture of what this would look like. Mr. McCoy showed them the steps and included trying to seek Federal funds to help offset the costs. This turned it into a multi-year project.

Mr. McCoy noted that the Federal Government likes to be in from the beginning and see a well thought out idea. It is important to get them to have a study done which will come back with recommendations. The community would then pick items out from the recommendations to move forward with for feasibility studies. The Federal government is more apt to fund the feasibility studies. Depending on the outcome of the feasibility studies and the quality of the consultant chosen, the Federal government may be more apt to provide implementation money. Mr. McCoy noted you don't stand yourself apart by skipping the process and going straight to the request for implementation money. Mr. McCoy reviewed some of the steps and their details to the group.

Mr. Brady thanked him for coming in. Mr. Boose appreciated that they are taking on this endeavor and thought it would be a difficult task. He hoped they could pull the whole county together to work in the same direction. Mr. Boose noted that in the past similar things have been tried and he thinks they have a totally different approach, which will hopefully lead us in a different direction. One of his concerns as an elected official is who would be in control when recommendations come out. He wanted to make sure that what Mr. McCoy has drawn up includes the elected officials and they play a role in this. Mr. Boose feels the grants and other items will need elected officials supporting them. But we also need everyone's ideas.

Mr. McCoy noted that nobody wants to be told what to do and if people come and be a part of the process, then they can see where the input they provided was meaningfully incorporated into the plan. This will help the groups to buy into taking some of the recommendations back to their community. Mr. McCoy noted that it is key that the right people be at the table, especially for any outside funding which we may be able to get from the State or Federal government. Mr. McCoy stated he just came here today to share this with the commissioners and were not asking for anything today, but if they are interested, then he will be back.

Mr. McCoy stated that the elected officials care a lot about the community and believes that is why they ran for office. This would be a great way for them to hear from more of their constituents to get an idea of what we are going to do. It will not be perfect the first time, but it is not a one and done approach. We do it and implement some of the recommendations and show the public we are serious about it and did not just create a study that is sitting on a shelf, but created a road map. Mr. Wilde noted it should be a living document which continues to be reviewed as life changes.

Mr. Boose noted that state members were included and asked what their roles would be in the group. Mr. McCoy felt they would just want to be an observer. But being on the legislative floor is a powerful persuader in moving people to one side or another on a particular issue. He did not think that Dick Stein would come, but someone from his staff may come, then give him the information and he could use that information.

Dave Weisenburger, HCDC Chairman. Mr. Weisenburger stated he has been in several groups and each was struggling with the same things. He also noted that communication between local cities and villages is lacking. He is hoping if we can bring everyone together to share ideas, we can form this organization which will make us better together. Mr. Weisenburger noted that Erie County is going with the Greater Sandusky Partnership so they can represent more people when they go to Columbus or are looking for grants or funding. You would represent more people doing it that way.

23-214

IN THE MATTER OF PURCHASING PROPERTY FROM THE HURON COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

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

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

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

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

(1) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality; (2) to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the county that are performing such essential work, or by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work;

(3) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of such county due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the county prior to the emergency; or

(4) to make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. And

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

WHEREAS, McDonald Hopkins LLC has reviewed the Commissioners' request to utilize ARPA funds for the purchase of property from the Huron County Board of Development Disabilities and has determined that the use of ARPA funds received by the County may be used under the Revenue Loss Category, a copy of McDonald Hopkins LLC's opinion is attached hereto and expressly incorporated by reference herein;

now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby offer and agrees to purchase from the Huron County Board of Developmental Disabilities the real estate as more specifically described in the attached Real Estate Purchase Contract as attached hereto and expressly incorporate by reference herein; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby agree to pay the sum of One Million dollars and no/100 (\$1,000,000.00) at the time of closing from Huron County's ARPA funds; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Huron County Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached purchase agreement and to do all things necessary to effectuate the purchase of said property; 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.

Terry Boose seconded the motion.

***Discussion:** Ms. Smith thanked the commissioners for their partnership and the use of the building. Mr. Boose thanked Ms. Smith for working with us and thought the price was fair to both parties. He stated that our intention is to use ARPA money to purchase it. We have followed all of the steps required by ARPA and are using the money from the \$10M category, which is a little more flexible than the other \$3M. We intend to keep Firelands Local as a renter, but they may have a different amount of space. They have some machines and equipment at the building. We hope to put an agreement together. We also have some thoughts about Huron County Transportation and may house Huron County Transportation out there since there are buildings which would be conducive to house vehicles. We are also looking for any other economic development/work force development needs as part of the ARPA. He thought we may be able to work out some help in the area of childcare. It is not our intention to have government childcare, but if we can help the community to provide more childcare and do some programs that would be awesome. Mr. Boose noted this is a mutual endeavor and is a work in progress.

Mr. Strickler noted there will be an MOU between both boards in order to share some of the facilities and the cost. He said there are also some parking issues which will need to be worked out. Mr. Boose stated that eventually we would have an agreement with Firelands as well and would not kick them out; they will continue working with the contract they have. Mr. Strickler stated it was his understanding that we would be using the current contract as the template for our next contract with them. We need to work some items out with them as far as the storage of these materials. Mr. Wilde said they provide a nice shredding service and employee people. Mr. Brady noted because of the nature of the business which is in there it is a good use of ARPA funds for that, as well as the whole county.

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

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

**Agreement on file*

At 10:00 a.m. Kari Smith, Board of DD/Lara Hozalski, HR/Andy Thomas, Assured Partners – CORSA discussion.

Mr. Brady stated the Board of DD requested to re-join CORSA. Ms. Hozalski said she wanted to go back to the purchase and stated there are certain documents they will need from the transfer for insurance coverage. Ms. Hozalski asked Andy Thomas to come in because he can give a better explanation about the insurance. Ms. Hozalski brought in copies of the proposal which had been forwarded to the commissioners. She noted these had an effective date of May 1, so that would change. Ms. Hozalski stated this was the proposal which CORSA had given them and would be the cost to add DD to our CORSA coverage. Ms. Hozalski turned it over to Mr. Thomas to explain the details.

Mr. Thomas explained they took a current policy program and the policy they currently have and sent them over to the underwriting manager at CORSA. She reviewed the coverages they currently have in place versus what the CORSA coverages would be. They didn't want to leave anything out and make sure that they would either have adequate limits or limits that would be over and above. Mr. Thomas would like to see the policy that they had and the new renewal to make sure there weren't any changes, but there really weren't any coverages that we either weren't at or that we exceeded. Umbrella limits were higher and most court coverages were higher. CORSA needs to button up some stuff like building information, but they used the value that they currently have it insured at. CORSA was able to save some money against the current Ohio School Plan Pool Policy.

Mr. Brady asked Ms. Smith if their board was satisfied with the coverages and are all the properties which are currently owned by the Board of DD included in this. Ms. Smith stated that right now it covers 3 buildings, but it will go down to 2. Mr. Brady asked if they were okay with the pricing as well. Ms. Smith said she had not shown the board this exact number. Mr. Thomas stated this was the first step. Once the commissioners are okay with them doing this, then they will get a more detailed analysis and comparison. Then he can sit down with the Board of DD to review the pros and cons. There are a lot more pros than cons, but there is always good and bad, but this is the first step. Price wise they are in there and saving money, coverage wise

they are in there too.

Mr. Brady asked about the timeframe. Mr. Thomas stated he could go as fast as we need him to. He noted that the hard part is done, which was to have the school plan stuff reviewed versus CORSA coverages. Now it is just his agency putting together the comparison. They just have a couple of questions, then they can get it put together. Ms. Hozalski stated the question will be when the Board of DD will have to give notice by. Mr. Thomas said that he would also like to look at the coverage agreement from the school plan pool. Not just the coverage limits, but the actual verbiage in the back. He noted that sometimes with the school plans you take your claims with you, so that would be one of the first things they will want to review to make sure it is not a factor, or how big a factor. Ms. Smith said they do not have any claims. Mr. Thomas noted another item they would want to review would be if they canceled mid-term, would they get their money back or would they get charged a penalty. That could dictate what they want to do. CORSA could just add them on and prorate the premium.

Mr. Strickler asked if there was a need to have any type of tail coverage. Mr. Thomas stated as long as the retro dates are matched up, then it would not be needed. But if the retro dates could not be matched, then it would be needed and the actual verbiage in the policy would give him the retro dates. Mr. Brady asked when their policy goes through. Ms. Smith told him February of 2024.

Mr. Boose stated some of the issues they brought up are the commissioners and some are the Board of DD's. The issue of whether they would get money back or not is the Board of DD's issue. Mr. Boose asked if we had any aggregates which this would affect. For instance, if they have a major claim, then we have one after that, so it will cost us more. Mr. Thomas told him yes and no, realistically we are just growing and are adding more property, more liability and vehicles. It is like a business that grows. He noted our aggregate limits are good and are \$8M in terms of liability. Mr. Thomas noted their limits are lower than that right now and he did not feel we would need to raise our limits. He stated if we felt uncomfortable, then CORSA has the availability for more aggregate limits on our umbrella and the could bump up if we wanted too. He felt at the limits we are at now he does not see any issues.

Mr. Boose noted the commissioners had offered this insurance to most everyone in the county and sometimes there is a risk in doing that. He said that some people like to jump in the middle, then jump back out. Whichever is the best deal for them. Mr. Boose said we don't want that, if you come in, then we want you to stay on it, this is a long term plan for us to have CORSA. He wanted to make sure the Board of DD was not just hopping in to get a better rate.

Ms. Smith noted they had never intended to leave CORSA but the previous administration asked them to leave when the building purchases were switched to their name. She stated they would like to remain with CORSA. Mr. Thomas noted that wasn't a red flag and it is pretty well known that the Board of DD is part of the County. Mr. Boose thought this was a great opportunity for them to be part of this insurance.

Mr. Boose asked if the commissioners need to do anything. Mr. Strickler thought they should do a motion so it is recorded in the minutes.

Terry Boose moved to support Board of DD to continue to move forward in becoming a part of CORSA. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye – Terry Boose

Aye – Harry Brady

Aye – Bruce Wilde

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Prosecutor updates:

- Mr. Strickler said the good news was we received our check from Erie County on Thursday; it was deposited on Friday. Ms. Ziembra stated the Budget Commission meeting tomorrow was for that check. Mr. Boose said he had a couple of comments.
 - He stated we would be getting with Norwalk Ohio News about the article they wrote, he was not sure if the dollar amounts were correct. Mr. Boose noted we are hoping to have the actual amount of money we spent on the lawsuit. We do not think the amount Mr. Tkach gave was correct, so we are double checking on the numbers. He also had doubts about the numbers which Erie County gave, but could not verify them. Mr. Strickler commented that their number in the article looked more like an appellate number than a trial court number.
 - Mr. Boose would like to break the silence which we have had for so long on this issue. Mr. Boose said we spent several years trying to work this out with Erie County but did not get any positive moves towards a solution to the issue. He stated that we did not want to end the contract, but felt we had to end the contract because the lack of movement on Erie County's part was causing us to: 1. Have trash on the road; 2. Have trash on the floor at night, which according to the EPA we are not supposed to have; 3. We didn't have the proper vehicles, which were maintained in a good condition. Mr. Boose said that was only part of the story

and we tried to resolve those issues with Erie County. There were many meetings, e-mails and phone calls about the issues. We ended the contract and it was proven in the trial that Erie County was not living up to the contract, nor did they show us they had any intentions to resolve the issues. Mr. Boose said we worked in good faith for at least 2 years trying to get this resolved so we could legally get trash off the floor every night and get everything hauled in a safe way as well as not producing trash along the road. Mr. Boose also stated that our employees had some challenges working with the trucking company that was out there. He stated we tried to work this out with them but a lot of the information in the news is that all of a sudden, we said we did not want the contract anymore. That is not the truth, we worked hard to resolve the issue.

- Mr. Strickler stated we had numerous meetings, which he attended along with Mr. Wilde, Mr. Welch. Mr. Boose may have been at some of them. He noted there were numerous meetings prior to us terminating the agreement. They explained what the issues were and that they needed to be corrected asap. Mr. Strickler commented that it seemed as though they fell on deaf ears and asked Mr. Boose if that was correct. Mr. Boose stated we received no results from them for a possible way to continue the contract. He noted they made a lot of promises that they would do certain things, but in the 2 years we worked with them, none of the promises materialized.
- Mr. Boose stated that in the trial we proved everything we needed to prove and the judge came back with a favorable decision for us. He noted there was no reason for the lawsuit and we were raked over the coals by the newspaper. Especially from the Editor of the Sandusky Register. They said we were wrong and shouldn't have broken the contract, even though we had the judge tell us we did everything we were supposed to do. We haven't heard a word from the Sandusky Register since we won our case in 2 different courts. We have also never received an apology from the Erie County Commissioners.
- Mr. Boose stated some people asked why we spent so much money on this, he told them we had no choice, they sued us over something we did which was correct. Mr. Strickler stated they sued us first, then we had to respond to the lawsuit and we counter sued them. Mr. Boose noted we had to defend ourselves and we won. We also won in trial court, which we were very disappointed they went there because that was spending more of their tax payers money when it had been decided in regular court. The facts are the facts and that is what came out in the trial. Mr. Boose stated the court of appeals agreed with what the judge said.
- Mr. Boose explained we did everything correctly. We tried to resolve it first, we then dropped the contract so we would not get in both legal trouble and have trash all over the road. We did what we needed to do, then we got sued. Then they took it to the next level, which cost everyone more money. Mr. Boose again emphasized we still have heard nothing from them and it would have been nice to hear from them.
- Mr. Strickler felt this lawsuit hurt the community of Huron and Erie County due to the legal fees, the acrimony it caused and the huge amount of time that was spent on litigating. He noted we tried mediating this twice. Once at the trial level and then at the court of appeals. All of the attempts to settle the suit prior to it going to trial and or the appeal being heard were all for naught. Mr. Brady noted that while he was not in office when this happened, he agrees with what the thought pattern was.

Commissioner Wilde updates:

- Mr. Wilde stated he was at the Prosecutor's office when they received the check. Mr. Boose asked if the Erie County commissioners sent a message with the check. Mr. Strickler and Mr. Wilde told him no.
- Mr. Wilde was on the 8:30 a.m. budget call last Friday. Mr. Boose was also on the call, he said they didn't tell us anything new.
- Mr. Wilde stated they have a TAC meeting on Wednesday
- NEDC meeting on Thursday at 11:45.

Commissioner Brady updates:

- Mr. Brady will be at the TAC meeting tomorrow.
- There is a Land Bank meeting on Thursday.

Commissioner Boose updates:

- Mr. Boose spoke to a couple of the Fire Chief's after the Firefighters Association meeting last week. He feels there is a lot of miscommunication going on regarding whether we go out for a levy or not. If we do, what amount should it be. Mr. Boose also feels there is a lack of communication as to what the money would be spent on and hopes they will get those things clarified tomorrow. He also hopes we get a budget which is more realistic than the one we received earlier. Mr. Boose thinks they need to have more realistic information before they make a decision on August 8 or 9, or whatever date they need to have the ballot in by. He stated their decision as to how to move forward, in his opinion will be based on realistic needs, not wants, or the next amount of years the levy would be effective

for. He did not want to build up money in reserves.

- Mr. Boose said they should know in a couple of weeks whether they will have more money coming in to 9-1-1 based on the state budget, which is due July 1. He said that will make a huge difference in the amount we are asking for in the levy. Mr. Boose commented that some people said the last levy passed and the people were okay with it, so let's move forward with a similar levy. Mr. Boose did not feel that is the way you should decide the amount of the levy. Mr. Boose hopes a lot gets accomplished tomorrow, but at a minimum he hopes the message is that this is the commissioner's decision and they answer directly to the taxpayers, so whatever we go out for has some realistic numbers for a realistic time.
- Mr. Brady said he would be at the meeting and noted the taxpayers supported it last time, but we do not need to ask for more than the actual costs. Mr. Brady wants the taxpayers to understand what they are voting for and why it is necessary.
- Mr. Boose said that he heard we are not where the commissioners think we are as far as everybody being able to communicate with each other. He said the information he received was that we can't talk to everybody. One of the major things which was brought to his attention as being needed is mobile radios, so that when they are in a vehicle, they can talk to anyone they need to around the county. Mr. Boose did not think that has ever been brought up to them. He also thought they were all speaking on the same radios and everyone could hear and everything was moving in the right direction. Mr. Boose said that is not the impression he has today and he asked them to bring it up tomorrow at the meeting. Mr. Boose said that was the talk 6 years ago. The Sheriff and the commissioners said it was about time that all first responders can speak to each other on the radio and didn't have to go to different radios or different channels to talk to people. As Mr. Boose understands, that has not been accomplished today and is high priority for him. It was 6 years ago and he is disappointed it hasn't happened yet.
- Ms. Poffenbaugh asked if this was part of the 9-1-1 system. Mr. Brady told her yes. Mr. Boose said the levy was for 9-1-1 and communications. He noted the levy was not just for 9-1-1 equipment because we knew we needed better radio communications among all first responders and that was part of the levy. He added that we are a lot closer, but we not there. Mr. Brady felt the commissioners were led to believe we are well into this and they could communicate with each other. Mr. Boose said he talked about the glitches and the challenges they had to get everyone to agree on the same radios. The point he brought up to the people he talked to was that the radios they decided to move forward with have been purchased, but what do we need to do to make sure in the near future, if that is not enough, what needs to be done to make sure it is enough. We are not going back to fight over some of the glitches they had. Mr. Wilde commented how do we get to where we need to be so everybody can communicate.
- Mr. Boose said he was thanked for having the upcoming meeting on Wednesday so everybody could express their ideas, hear and speak about their needs and be together. He hopes everyone knows what he expects to have in order to go out for a levy.

At 11:07 a.m. Terry Boose moved to enter into Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Bruce Wilde seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

At 11:40 a.m. Bruce Wilde moved to end Executive Session ORC 121.22 (G)(1). Terry Boose seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

**No action taken*

Commissioner Boose updates: continued

- Mr. Boose wanted to go over the meetings for tomorrow.
- At 9:00 a.m. there is a Budget Commission meeting. Mr. Wilde noted that none of them could attend it. Also, at 9:00 a.m. there is a 9-1-1 TAC/planning meeting.
- At 10:00 am there is a CCAO- Huntington Bank – County Commercial Card Consortium webinar. Ms. Ziemba and Mr. Strickler are signed up for this.
- Also, at 10:00 a.m. there is a Senior Center project meeting at Enrichment Services. He noted they are moving forward and starting to make decisions. Some of the items they talk about are materials. He noted that Ms. Ziemba, Mr. Welch, Mr. Riedy and himself would be at this meeting.
- Mr. Boose anticipated the 9-1-1 TAC meeting would go longer than 10:00 a.m.

- There is a NEDC meeting and a Land Bank meeting on Thursday.
- Mr. Boose was not sure about the CCAO Policy team call. Mr. Wilde did not think they would have one because there was one last week. Mr. Boose told him they go by the budget and when decisions are being made. He did not know whether any decisions were being made this week. They still don't have who is on the conference committee, which is not normal. It is usually leadership and the finance committee chairman. We will find that out maybe as early as today. They could also decide which version of the budget they will be using as a starting point. They could use the House, the Senate or the Governors version of the budget as a starting point. Mr. Boose did not think there would be many decisions made the rest of the week. Mr. Wilde stated if they get notification the meeting will be held, then he will attend.
- Last Friday Mr. Boose had a CCAO Board meeting. He feels CCAO has some challenges ahead of them as far as figuring out what our policies are for the budget moving forward.
- Mr. Boose said they had received an e-mail and asked Ms. Ziemba if Nate Pedder from Apex was going to be put on the schedule. Ms. Ziemba said she has not responded to him, but does not have anyone on the schedule except for the potential of the Sheriff at 9:30, so she thought she could add him in at 9:45 or 10:00. Mr. Wilde was okay with those times. Mr. Boose and Mr. Brady agreed.
- Mr. Boose received notice of another payment of opioid money. We supposedly received it by wire on June 16 in the amount of \$21,553.17. He noted this was not the next payment in the regular payments we have been getting. He thought it was an extra, but then read that it was payment #3 from Janssen. They have more money coming. Mr. Boose had a good discussion on spending this money with Ms. Cardone last week. Ms. Cardone said there are some local projects for the Region 19 money possibly.
- Ms. Ziemba sent them the Huron County Personnel Policy Manual. Mr. Boose noted that under vacation there was something highlighted and it leaves out the word hours after 40. Mr. Boose stated other than that, he does not have any problems with the changes he saw. He is not crazy about allowing employees to cash in 80 hours vacation leave. Mr. Boose noted that longevity was something which they talked about at the beginning of the year and thought they agreed to what was in there. The last bullet point states that it really expands and clarifies our existing policies. Mr. Boose stated there were a lot of changes in the Personnel Policy Manual which was sent to them
- Ms. Ziemba asked how they wanted to proceed with this. She told them the last time they made changes to it they sat and read every page. She asked if they wanted to do that or generalizations. Mr. Boose thought they should either go through it page by page or need some type of assurances that they have read all the changes which are in it because there are a lot of them. Mr. Wilde said he saw the changes which they have listed. Ms. Ziemba said he needs to look at the whole document, everything is highlighted. Mr. Boose said the first attachment is filled with changes. Mr. Wilde asked if they were all highlighted. Mr. Ziemba told him they were all highlighted in gray. Mr. Wilde said he was looking at something different. Mr. Boose thought there were more changes than not. Mr. Wilde then said he would need more time. Mr. Brady thought that even though it was long, it is important. He feels they should set a time where they can review it page by page. Mr. Boose thought if they reviewed it page by page it would take all morning or all afternoon. Mr. Brady said it is not that he wants to, but feels it is a necessity with all the changes. Ms. Ziemba said she would contact Ms. Hozalski and schedule something.
- Mr. Boose stated he was going to skip the majority of Counties Current and Statehouse Report. Although he did want to note that the 64-cent user fee is not in the budget at this time. He said there is a bill in the senate to do this and he thought it had already passed out of committee. Mr. Brady thought as long as they could get something done it would be helpful.
- Mr. Boose said they discussed the August special election at the CCAO Board meeting. The concerns are that first, there is not enough money and second, what is going to be considered a reimbursable expense. There is no definition at this time. There is always the discussion that the big counties send out more mail and spend more money than most other counties do. One county has already said they are giving their poll workers a raise for that election because they can't find poll workers. Another item that came up is that because it is a special election there are places where there are poll precincts that can no longer be used as poll precincts because it is a special election. Mr. Boose said it goes back to the indigent defense situation. Does whoever spent the most money get the most money? Is there a competition for the money? Is all of the money going to come before the election, or only part of it. Mr. Boose asked who has control over that money? Is it the Board of Elections and can they spend it on whatever they want to spend it on, hoping they get reimbursed for it? Can places like counties charge for them to use their facility to hold the special election. He gave an example of meeting room A, which would now be tied up for a month which it would normally not be tied up. None of that has been decided. Mr. Boose noted they would not make that decision in the final budget, so who would make that decision.
- Mr. Boose said they heard there may be a possible lawsuit about the amount of money and how it is spent because there is either an ORC or a constitutional amendment which says that the state has to pay for the whole special election. Mr. Wilde noted it is a mess and nobody has an answer. Who knows when we will get an answer and thought we would not like the outcome.

- Another issue, is the electronic poll book money is still going to the Board of Elections instead of the County General fund. Mr. Boose does not know how that gets appropriated and what control the commissioners have over the appropriation. Mr. Brady stated it came from the general fund. Mr. Boose said that is the argument as to why it should be. Mr. Wilde interjected we don't have any control. Mr. Boose thought only the commissioners can appropriate and noted when he says appropriate, it could mean the amended certificate, etc. They only have so much appropriated in their current budget, so how does this money go into their budget. Ms. Ziemba stated the only way it could be done is if we transfer from their contingencies or ask for an amended certificate to put it in that way. Also, if the state says they have to do a special fund, then they do a special fund. Mr. Boose said what if it goes in a special fund. Mr. Strickler said if it goes in a special fund, then the commissioners have nothing. Mr. Boose noted they could spend it however they want. Mr. Strickler said the money is for poll books and is for a specified purpose, so he thought they have to use it for the poll books, he was not sure they could use it for whatever they want.
- Ms. Ziemba thought we had put money in their fund for poll books. Mr. Brady said they did. He thought they paid for it out of the general fund. Ms. Ziemba thought it was in the budget, but they had not been paid for yet. Mr. Boose stated here is what it says. Allowing counties to be reimbursed for purchase and lease of electronic poll books, is it in their budget or ours. Ms. Ziemba thought it was put in their budget line. She said she would check. Mr. Strickler noted if we had put it in their budget, then it should come back to the general fund because it's a reimbursement. Mr. Boose asked if they got it in their special fund, can we take it out of their general fund account. Mr. Brady thought we could. Ms. Ziemba did not know and said she had never seen that happen. She noted that you can't transfer it out. Mr. Strickler was unsure. Mr. Boose gave an example that they have \$300,000 in a budget line item. If they get money in a special fund, can we reduce that line item by the amount of money the poll books are for. Mr. Strickler said he would have to look into that. Ms. Ziemba stated it was put into their account line, but she can't figure out what the dollar amount is. Mr. Brady thought the amount was about \$55,000. Mr. Boose thought it was a lot more than that. Mr. Boose stressed that the reason this was so important was that last year the Board of Elections transferred money out of some of their other accounts into accounts which they wanted, particularly salaries, without asking the commissioners. Mr. Strickler stated he had written a legal opinion later which clarified the situation. Mr. Brady noted that it still says the commissioners shall approve unless it's for salaries and overtime. The only reason they moved it was to up the pay of their Directors. Ms. Ziemba said that everything she was finding did not have a dollar amount. Mr. Boose told Ms. Ziemba that he did not expect her to have an answer right now. He would just like her to look into this. Ms. Crable found the amount which was \$52,525 for 55 new poll pads.
- Mr. Boose told Mr. Strickler that Senate Bill 91 is the bill regarding fraud.
- House Bill 211 is to "amend 121.22 of the ORC to name this act the "Free to Speak Act" and to require a public body to permit members of the public to comment or testify about matters of public concern before the public body at it's public meeting". Mr. Strickler said that he does not believe that bill is necessary because there is a lot of case law out there that says people don't have the right to participate or speak in these meetings, but they have the right to come and observe. He thought that is probably why they are having this bill. Normally it is up to the sound discretion of the board, whether they want the people to speak or not. Most of the boards which he has represented over the years have always had some type of public participation, whether it be via a question when a resolution or ordinance comes up or a question about something in a meeting. Mr. Strickler thought this was due to something happening with someone who didn't allow someone to speak and that is why we need to have this bill now.
- Mr. Boose noted that they were working on a date to meet with Transit 911. Mr. Brady said it was set for next week on the 28th. Mr. Boose said they had an uncomfortable second quarter transportation meeting a week and a half ago. He noted that almost everyone at the meeting was disappointed that we were not further and they are not being updated about the progress of public transportation. GLCAP attended the meeting and said they were willing to help us in any way they can. Mr. Boose said we told them that to the best of our knowledge we were trying to look at other available counties with whom we could possibly join in for a region. GLCAP said they have many contacts for counties around us and said if we needed to, we could use their resources. We told them if they could help us that would be great. They then contacted Transit 9-1-1 to talk to them about their contacts. Transit 9-1-1 came back to us and said they had been contacted by GLCAP and asked if it was okay to talk with them. Mr. Boose replied stating sure, they said they could help us. We received an e-mail back from GLCAP stating they have had some discussions with regions around us and would be willing to talk to us about them. Mr. Wilde said that Jim Oliver sent him an e-mail to let him know he would be at the meeting on June 28 at 10:30.
- Mr. Brady said that he did not feel that any of them were opposed to working with GLCAP on this. We have been working with Transit 9-1-1 and this is the next step. Mr. Brady said he has discussed this with Steve Beal, who understands where we are going and what we are doing. His initial concern was about budget and whether he should apply for grants. Mr. Brady told him absolutely. They discussed that the commissioners would not pull any funding until at least 2024. Mr. Brady told Mr.

Beal that we were still exploring other options. We talked to Mr. Beal, JFS, tried to hire a director and are now looking at the possibility of forming a regional group or being a part of one. Mr. Brady said they are still working on the options and have a meeting next week after which they hope to have a little bit clearer picture. Mr. Boose said the frustration at the meeting was the lack of communication, so we need to do a better job of communicating. Mr. Boose recommended that Mr. Brady talk to Ms. Minor at JFS because she was in one of the groups who said they did not know where this was going. Mr. Brady said he could communicate with them, but we still don't have the answers they are looking for. Mr. Boose said they did not even know where we were going. Mr. Brady said that half the time we were not even sure where we are going. We are trying to figure out what is going to work best and what will last, not do a knee jerk reaction. He felt that was communicated to people as they were going through the process. Mr. Boose said not according to them. Mr. Brady felt it was and said that they had not given them a date as to when we would tell them what we are doing. Mr. Brady had a conversation with Mr. Beal, who was mainly concerned about his budget and what he should be doing. Mr. Brady told him what we have already committed to is the funding staying with them until December 31, 2023. Mr. Boose said that sometimes the discussion is just that, we haven't decided yet, but this is the direction we are looking. Instead of waiting until the final answer and giving it to them.

- Ms. Ziembra forwarded the MOU for SRO Services contract with Western Reserve District sometime last week or the week before. Mr. Boose said when reading the contract, there is a decision to be made before August as to whether we will continue with this MOU/contract or not. Mr. Boose does not agree with everything in this contract and would like to have the contract re-negotiated. But it comes back to the question of whether the Sheriff has the authority to sign contracts without the commissioner's approval. Mr. Brady asked Mr. Strickler if he could please get us an answer because that is definitely a question which has been raised. He noted the Sheriff may see it one way and we may see it another, but we have to go by the statute. Mr. Boose said we need an answer soon if we are going to give them notice. Otherwise it will roll over to another year. Mr. Boose read from the contract that it was effective from September 01, 2022 through August 31, 2023.
- Mr. Boose noted that it has been almost 2 months since he asked the Sheriff for a copy of all the contracts. This is the only contract he has seen, so he would like to formally do a public records request to the Sheriff's Office for all contracts with outside agencies. Mr. Wilde asked if we have had any contact with their office about why the contracts have not been sent. Mr. Ziembra said she has e-mailed the Sheriff and Mr. Ditz. Mr. Wilde asked her if she had received a response. She said she had received a response, but no contracts. Mr. Boose said the last response he saw was at a meeting he was not in, but he said he would send the contracts. Mr. Boose noted that was over 2 weeks ago. Mr. Brady noted the request be submitted via a public records request and felt that having an answer about how those work and what the responsibility is between the Sheriff and the commissioner's office regarding outside contracts would be very helpful to know as soon as possible because it may or may not strengthen or weaken whatever. But at least we know what the law says. Mr. Strickler stated that he has it written down.
- Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziembra to prepare a Public Records Request
- Firelands Forward did not meet this month due to the housing study meetings. Mr. Boose said that somehow, we need a next step. He does not think Firelands Forward feels it is their job to do the county's next step.
- Mr. Boose set up a meeting with Mckenna Laser and Dave White to talk about the Greater Sandusky Partnership because he does not understand it. He thought it may take over for Erie County Economic Development, but maybe not. He then said he thought it is more regional. Mr. Boose stated because it is named Greater Sandusky Partnership he did not think a lot of our needs would line up with Sandusky and did not think they were one and the same, so he has some concerns and needs to know exactly what Firelands Forward's relationship is with the Greater Sandusky Partnership. Mr. Boose noted that in the past, Firelands Forward fell under Erie County Economic Development and that is why he needs to know.
- Fair Board discussion:
 - Mr. Boose: We need to know with the fair board, where do we stand with the building.
 - Mr. Brady: I was going to give Bob Morgan a call and see where he was at with Schmid or anybody else there might have been
 - Ms. Ziembra: I actually spoke to Mr. Morgan this morning. Mr. Wilde was not here when you gave the report from that meeting. Can you start off, because you guys as the Board made the decision that everybody was going to get the same information and do the same action. Can you give an update on what happened at that meeting so everybody is on the same page?
 - Mr. Brady: To the best of my recollection, I did go to that special called Fair Board meeting. I was only there to explain anything about ARPA as best that we understand it. The question was brought up by some people, it was more of an accusation that we were forcing them to take somebody off our list. I said no, if you want to use somebody else, then you have to go through the same process because you have to follow the ARPA rules because even if you, and you will start with private money, in the course of this it goes to ARPA, it has to have

been done from the get go by ARPA rules. They finally got the understanding so they said okay fine, can we have that list. I said absolutely, it is public record. Mr. Morgan got a copy of it and I said to them, we would have this discussion on the following Tuesday, the one you weren't here. They came in – Dick Wiles was here, Bob Morgan was here and Roger Hunker was here. We mentioned that they did get Schmid. They asked the question and kept thinking we had to pass this resolution in order for them to go out to bid. I said no, what we want to know is that you have your financing, it has to be together before you go out to bid. The Commissioners have already publicly stated that we have earmarked up to \$1.8M of ARPA money for this project. We know that money is sitting there. We are not concerned about us having it. They said well Mr. Strickler said and I said well I think the idea is that you have to have all your funding in place, and knowing we have the money isn't the concern. So that was in fact what Mr. Strickler was telling them. Again, I asked Ms. Gordon, because it got brought up about grants. They needed this money so they could get grants. I said, I am not sure you can use ARPA money for grants, but I don't know that. Ms. Gordon was on speed dial for that meeting but we didn't need to call her, but she called me afterwards and wanted to know how it went. I said, they keep talking about grants, I don't know anything about it. I said, a lot of times you need to have your own personal money, whatever entity has to have their money in it. She said, I typically do not do the grant match, but I will get you a more definitive answer. I said I appreciate that. So, I told them she was working on that. So, if you've seen the emails, she can't give an answer unless she knows the specific grants. I have asked before about specific grants and they get on the hostile side. Mr. Hunker got very hostile that night when I asked him what grants he was applying for and said "I can't tell you". Yet his daughter was there who is helping the grant writer, and she didn't volunteer to say it either. I said when they were here, if you can use ARPA money for a grant match, I want to know that for the reasons that the County Commissioners could maybe use grant match money from ARPA for something that we would want to do. So, as of now I don't know if they have communicated to you, so you can communicate to Ms. Gordon what grants they are actually trying for.

- Ms. Ziemba: The phone call I had from Mr. Morgan this morning said he forwarded that request on to Mr. Hunker. He said he got back an email that, somebody was quoting like the federal standards and all this stuff. But he said it doesn't really tell him what type of grant they are applying for. My phone conversation with Ms. Gordon was that she can't blanketly say yes you can, so she said it appears they are looking for something like that and she can't give a blanket yes, you can use it because every grant is specific.
- Mr. Boose: The question came up was that they can't go out to bid to find out what the bids come in at until they have the money. They need to have the money to go out to have the bids. I asked the question, can we, instead of just signing what they signed that night, because we have not signed that yet, do some kind of contingency saying that we would approve \$1.8M only if they have, at the time of bid, all the other money already at their disposal.
- Mr. Brady: Which is what we verbally said to them, but if they want to see in writing it's the same thing.
- Mr. Boose: It's not whether they want to see it in writing, it is what they need to have before they can bid.
- Mr. Brady: They have a bit to do before they go out to bid in the sense that if you look at the numbers, they are around \$300,000 short right now. Even with the \$1.8M. That was with the numbers they got from Adam Weaver, who did the original. And again, I am not here to debate whether the number is good, bad, right or wrong. I said to them, you understand that now, you have the documents, you can go and talk to the architect or whoever; the architect I would suggest because somebody has to oversee the project. They do have a set of prints. One of the fair board members, after the meeting, was looking at it and said you know what is going to happen. He was talking to another fair board member and said an architect is going to take a look at this and say there ain't no way in the world you are doing it for this price. That was one of the fair board members; I don't know which one it was. I just told them, understand, you now have an engineer's estimate. So, if you go out to bid and they come in way over it – over 10% - you're done with that. You have to go back and redo.
- Mr. Boose: The key to me with the contingency money is this, we have not agreed they can build any building they want for \$1.8M because, due to ARPA, we have reasons why we can use that money for that and it is not just for a pig barn. The reason we are including the \$1.8M of ARPA is for tourism, for shows, for other things (Mr. Wilde added 4-H). Once again, I think the contingency or whatever they need, they are going to need something in writing if they are going to go out to bid. They can't just say the commissioners said they are going to give us this. They are going to need something in writing. I'm saying that whatever we give them in writing needs to be a contingency that it is for the building that we have talked about and can be used all year around, for other purposes than just showing animals for the fair. It is also contingent upon them having the rest of the money raised to do the total package.

- Mr. Brady: Just for the record, when Mr. Boose suggested that, I am okay with that, I'm still okay with it. They were asking what's the next step. I said, well, you have enough private money, \$200,000 and some, to engage the architect to put together bid documents and start on that so you can keep the ball rolling. One of their concerns was that the Commissioners get this date and if they didn't have it all done by then, not the building, but that we would pull it. I said that is not the case. We want to know that you are moving forward. We want to know you are actually going to do the project. If not, we have to reallocate the money and it takes time to do that. As long as you are making steps we are not looking to yank this out from under you. You do have to keep the process moving, which is why they voted to use someone off the list. They did reach out to Garmann Miller, but because of their workload, they don't have the time. Mr. Brady talked to Mr. Monnin and was told they are very swamped. They did get a hold of Schmid.
- Mr. Wilde: I am all about the contingency, because without it we don't have any guarantee on ARPA.
- Mr. Brady: Did not think it would come down to this level, he hoped not and they said it wouldn't, but they started talking about claw backs and Washington taking back unallocated ARPA money. Mr. Brady thought that by doing something like this and at least getting as much of this committed as possible shows that Huron County is moving forward with spending the money even if it is still just an allocation.
- Ms. Ziemba: From what she is hearing, they are not going to sign the contract, this is something completely separate. She noted that we were working to try to figure out how to move with this. She asked if this was a resolution or a letter of commitment.
- Mr. Boose - It could still be an agreement, it just needs to have more added to it.
- Ms. Ziemba – So, not the agreement they signed. We don't want to sign that agreement.
- Mr. Brady: This is strictly about committing up to \$1.8M provided that they can move forward with the project and follow the rules.
- Mr. Strickler: The problem with a resolution is it has the force of losses, so it would have to be written very carefully. I think it would be better if you do a motion with a letter saying we will do this on the following conditions and send it to them that way. But you have to set forth the conditions – you are going to get \$1.8M but you have to do x, y & z and a,b,c,d,e,f,g.
- Mr. Boose - One of the things we haven't mentioned as a condition – should it be that we have them at a certain place by a certain time. My concern is, it has been a month since we had the meeting, I am not sure how much further they are than they were a month ago. How late makes it too late and too hard for us to be able spend the rest of the ARPA money.
- Mr. Boose - Put in a date that we want them to go out to bid by. With that date say, or some other agreed upon future date. The other thing is I don't want to use a drop-dead date. I would like to say, by this date, or some other date agreed on by all the parties.
- Mr. Brady said they are already in conversations with a project manager so they are getting to that point and if you give them a 3-month window they should be able to get bid documents within that time. Not necessarily a contract signed but at least you know they are bidding it.
- Ms. Ziemba: Mr. Morgan said Schmid is working with Contractor's Design, so they are kind of using that design. She doesn't know any more detail.
- Mr. Brady: He is not here to debate whether we do it or don't do it or whether the price is right or not. He is here to cover the interest of the commissioners with ARPA . With Schmid already saying the budget is going to be larger, they need to figure out real soon what we are looking at.
- Mr. Boose: What is normal bid timeline:
- Ms. Ziemba: Advertise once a week for two consecutive weeks. The week after the second advertisement you would do a pre-bid meeting, then you would give them another week. So at least a month.
- Mr. Boose: What if we give a specific date which we would like it to go to bid by, then give them 45 days from that date for an acceptance of the bid. We not only need them to go out to bid, but we need a decision whether that bid is okay and they can go forward.
- Mr. Strickler: I think I would say "or sooner".
- Ms. Ziemba asked if there is a date we would like them to go out to bid by ?
- Mr. Boose did not know if it was realistic or not but would like it to be bid by the end of August. He noted they are not ready to go out to bid for the Senior Services building yet and they have been meeting for 2 to 3 months.
- Mr. Brady said that we are working on the design for the senior center and the fair board already has plans. Mr. Brady noted that is why he said October 1 because he felt that should be realistic.
- Ms. Ziemba asked if it would be safe to say we would like them to go out to bid by September 1. Then have 45 days to accept the bid.
- Mr. Strickler: Accept the bid and enter into a contract on or by October 15.
- Ms. Ziemba stated that October 15 was a Sunday. They discussed which date they should make this and decided it should say to accept the bid and enter into a contract by October 16.

- Mr. Boose asked about the ARPA internet infrastructure project which we are talking about waiting to approve because we got a letter from Spectrum. Mr. Boose asked that we get an independent opinion from the state. Mr. Boose asked if Ms. Ziemba would like to comment on this.
- Ms. Ziemba stated that she asked Mr. Riedy to reach out to them as well as Mr. Boose did and it was also discussed by the commissioners. Mr. Riedy said he sent an e-mail. Ms. Ziemba noted that she had been copied on the e-mail. He tried calling him as well as State Representative Dick Stein and left messages for both. At the end of the day Friday Ms. Ziemba sent an e-mail to Peter Volderberg from Broadband Ohio. She received a response from him. She noted that she had sent her e-mail at 4:43 and received a response before 5:00. He thanked her for the e-mail and said he would like to check on what he can review and get back with her early next week.
- Mr. Boose stated that if people do not respond you need to ask them again and again. He noted that sometimes we assume that everyone gets the e-mails, but sometimes they go to spam or out in space somewhere, so it doesn't hurt to do follow-ups.
- Ms. Ziemba asked Mr. Boose about the Firefighters meeting and SAFEbuilt. He said they also talked about it at the last meeting. They would like a representative to come to at least one of their Firefighters Association Meetings so they can put a face to a name and ask questions about inspections or whatever they need to do and the process. They said in the past they called Richland County Building Department and that is how they moved, so now they want to know what the process is. Mr. Wilde felt that Bob Kurtz should be that person. Mr. Ziemba was going to send an e-mail to Rosie McCormack and ask her to help us with that.

At 12:47 p.m. Bruce Wilde moved to adjourn. Terry Boose 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 June 20, 2023.

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 12:47 p.m.

Signatures on File