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

The following were also in attendance: Vickie Ziemba, Administrator/Clerk; Cherise Crable, Clerical Assistant; Randal Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor; Joel Riedy, Network Administrator; Roger Hunker, Lyme Township Trustee/APEX; Brad Mesenburg, Citizen; Danielle Smith, Citizen; Patricia Didion, Citizen; Shylee Greszler, Norwalk Ohio News; Brian Gott, Norwalk Reflector.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the August 29, 2023 and September 5, 2023 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the August 29, 2023 and September 5, 2023 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Terry Boose seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

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

23-290

## 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 #365766 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.

\*<u>Discussion</u>: Mr. Boose asked Mr. Riedy if Common Pleas Court had talked to him about their anti-virus. Mr. Riedy stated they did it on their own, but it is the same one we have. Mr. Boose thought we should let them know they could be included in ours and it wouldn't come out of their budget.

Jail purchased battery backups from ES Consulting. Mr. Boose asked Mr. Riedy if they contacted him. Mr. Riedy said they had not. Jail also had Network Guardian and MDR. Mr. Riedy thought Guardian was some sort of antivirus. Mr. Wilde thought this was something we could do and Mr. Riedy agreed. Mr. Boose said it was something they wouldn't have to pay for out of their budget. \$814.25.

Mr. Boose wanted to contact Ms. Minor to find out what "Fingerprints/daycare - August" was for. Mr. Strickler thought this was for the daycare providers. Ms. Ziemba explained if someone was getting fingerprints done they would pay Job & Family Services; Job & Family would pay the state.

WIOA - using cab service again. Mr. Boose is going to check with Ms. Minor on this.

Almost \$100,000 in out of county foster care. Out of county are special cases. We are reimbursed 50% for some of these.

Architectural/engineering services for both Senior center and elevator.

TekRx block hours for 9-1-1 countywide communication. Mr. Boose asked Mr. Riedy if we were still trying to reduce this for next year. Mr. Riedy said he was, but they have had to work with them quite a bit over the last several weeks. There were several issues they had when Mr. Riedy was not available. He explained we receive a better rate if we have block hours. Mr. Boose wanted to try to reduce the number of block hours. Mr. Riedy said they can only be purchased in blocks of 50, but they don't expire. Mr. Wilde asked how the new 9-1-1 Coordinator felt about things. Mr. Riedy said she has indicated she wants to work with County IT more; she thinks they can resolve things faster. Mr. Wilde liked that. Mr. Boose asked if he was aware of the

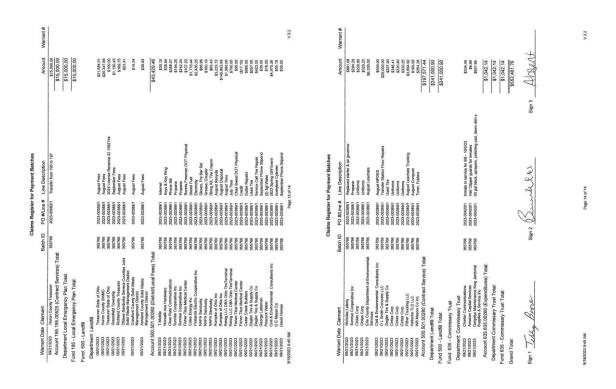
problems with radios in the Collins area. Mr. Riedy said that most of the radio problems, unless it is a network problem, are handled by Cleveland Communications.

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

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

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At 9:13 a.m. Public comment - none.

23-291

# IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REQUESTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF OVER \$5,000.00 SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD SEPTEMBER 19, 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:

#### **EMA Fund #177**

New Wave

Advance dive training

\$ 9,160.00

now therefore

**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.

\*<u>Discussion</u>: Mr. Boose spoke to Chief Reiderman at the Firefighter's Association meeting last week. Chief Reiderman told him they were in a stall as far as training and equipment purchases to bring on new people, which they desperately need. Mr. Boose told him if he put a figure together we would try to get it paid. This is for the training; the City of Willard is providing \$15,000 for the equipment.

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

Aye – Terry Boose Absent – Harry Brady Aye – Bruce Wilde 23-292

#### IN THE MATTER OF DISPOSING COUNTY PROPERTY

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Title Office has various equipment which no longer work and/or are obsolete and cannot be repaired;

**WHEREAS,** the Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that they are not needed for public use;

**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 directs that the list of obsolete county property as attached hereto and incorporated herein be disposed of;

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.

\*<u>Discussion</u>: Ms. Ziemba explained there were four old APC battery backups that no longer work. Mr. Riedy had been consulted about this.

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

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

#### 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 Absent – Harry Brady Aye – Bruce Wilde

- Erin Whipple & Macynzie Gardner, JFS, to Austinburg, Ohio for School Tour on April 29, 2023.
- Nicole Cross, JFS, to Perrysville, Ohio for Ohio FCFC Coordinator's Conference on October 25 27, 2023.
- Harry Brady, Commissioner, to Columbus, Ohio for CCAOSC Energy Executive Committee meeting on October 25, 2023.
- Art Mead, EMA to Lore City, Ohio for EMAO Winter Conference on December 6 8, 2023.

**SIGNINGS** - none

## **OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator/Clerk updates: none

## **Assistant Prosecutor updates:**

Commissioner Boose said that Ms. Ziemba had forwarded an email from the Sheriff stating that they were going to basically ignore the Commissioner's request for a new SRO contract with Western Reserve schools and would continue with the old contract. Mr. Boose requested a written opinion from Mr. Strickler. Mr. Strickler stated he had started working on it. Mr. Boose said that they would have to send an email to the school letting them know if they do or do not have a contract.

Mr. Strickler received a hard copy of the tower contract with New London. Question as to whether Firelands Ambulance Service is going to remain on the tower; he may have to take them off. Once he determines that he will submit it to the law director of New London. The contract requires 90-day notice to terminate, but we

are not terminating. Mr. Strickler plans to give them 90-day notice of our intent to remove one set of antenna; we will leave the other one there. Really the only thing being amended is, instead of 1/7, it may be 1/6 or even 1/5.

At 9:30 a.m. <u>Joel Riedy, Broadband Project update</u>. Before Mr. Riedy started Mr. Boose asked if we could get Spectrum in to provide an update on their grant project. Mr. Riedy said he would contract Brian Young.

Mr. Riedy said they had received notice that North Coast Wireless was ready to start construction on the broadband project. North Coast asked if the county could pay for the equipment in advance because there are several advantages to doing that. Bulk rate is the big thing, which allows them to buy more equipment for less. This will also allow them to have everything on hand so that as weather permits, when they get a nice day, they can go hit a tower and bring it online. Mr. Boose did not think some of it sounded like equipment to him. He just wanted to make sure what they were paying for was all equipment - he did not want to pay for labor ahead of time. Mr. Strickler said it was equipment and materials from what he understood. Mr. Riedy said the only thing on the list that you could not physically touch were the licenses, but they were required. Mr. Boose said part of the problem with working with the smaller companies was government accounting. It takes a lot of time for them to get their money sometimes. He understood this. Mr. Boose asked Ziemba if we could move quickly on the invoices they submit. Ms. Ziemba explained they were paid immediately. It just depends on timing. If an invoice happens to come in on a Friday and they miss the cutoff it will take another week. Mr. Boose wanted to make sure we were doing what we could for the contractors. Mr. Riedy said they have agreed to provide us with copies of invoices to prove they are not sitting on anything. Mr. Boose thought it would be okay, as long as Mr. Riedy was telling them it was all materials, and they would be sending us invoices. He asked Mr. Riedy to follow very closely and double check the invoices when they come in, he thought that was important. Mr. Boose confirmed with Mr. Strickler that it would not be a problem as long as they provide us the proper documentation. Mr. Boose suggested Mr. Riedy put together a spreadsheet so they could check things off as they receive the invoices.

Mr. Boose noted this was not a brand-new company, nor where they new to us. We have a great working relationship with them. Mr. Strickler agreed, saying there was no reason not to do this given our prior experience with them. He noted we had worked with them on the fairgrounds project and some other projects around the county. Mr. Boose said they had just finished their portion of the state project. Mr. Wilde stated our mission has been dependable, affordable internet service. He thought the quicker we could get this done for the constituents the better. Mr. Riedy said he was still getting calls asking when this was coming.

Bruce Wilde moved to pay the invoice provided by North Coast Wireless. Terry Boose seconded the motion.

\*Discussion: Mr. Boose noted this was being paid with ARPA money, so it was already in the account.

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

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

## OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS - continued Commissioner Wilde updates:

He and Mr. Boose sat through the Department of Development webinar yesterday. Demo/Brownfield and Lead Poisoning and the dollars and cents with that. There will be a resolution on Thursday to appoint the Land Bank as our representative. They will administer the Brownfield/demo money. GLCAP is handling the lead abatement for Huron County. \$450,000 for lead abatement for Huron County. \$500,000 for demolition. \$1 million for Brownfield.

Mr. Wilde noted that Mr. Boose was leaving Thursday around noon to go to Columbus. He would miss the Network After Work event.

WIOA meeting next Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. Mr. Boose noted that HCDC was going to be there as well. It would not be an official HCDC meeting, but they would be there.

Mr. Wilde will be leaving to go out of town next Wednesday afternoon.

### **Commissioner Boose updates:**

Region 19 meeting last Wednesday in Wellington. Half of the regional money will go directly to counties for their own projects. Looking at a formula to see how to divide fairly among the seven counties. The new director just took over last week, but plans to disperse the money in January according to the schedule. Matt Olds, our representative, does not see how this will happen. Discussed whether everything has to be evidence

based. The OneOhio MOU says it has to be evidenced based, but there is another section that says they want us to be creative, with new ideas. Mr. Boose said they are talking to the state about this. But at the state's last meeting they said over and over that they want them to think outside the box. Discussion that, even if it is new and creative, it should be based on some kind of science or behavioral science.

While he was at the Region 19 meeting Mr. Boose had a discussion with the Director of Lorain County Community College regarding workforce development. She is going to set up a meeting to see if there are services LCCC could provide to Huron County. They can set up a specific program for a specific business if that is what they need for training.

From the Region 19 meeting in Lorain County Mr. Boose went to Attica, in Seneca County, for the Firefighter's meeting. They discussed mutual aid and wanted to know if the Commissioners still support it. Mr. Boose replied that he didn't want to say they don't support it, but they need more information. He told them they will have to come to the Commissioners with what they need. Once they get the information the Commissioners will review it. They are always going to think about the safety of the county, and it makes sense, but the Board needs more details. He wanted to make sure they knew it was in their court to come to us.

Thursday morning was an HCDC meeting. They are looking for another Board member for the Executive Committee. Discussion regarding TID (Transportation Improvement District). They are having problems figuring out the history of this and how it was set up. They are being audited by the State. Ms. Ziemba suggested Mr. McCoy reach out to Ms. Knapp. Ms. Ziemba said she knew the TID was holding meetings. She thought Mr. Tansey was very active in it and had been to all of the meetings. Mr. Boose did not think they held regular meetings. Ms. Ziemba agreed, saying it was a grant period; they reviewed grants. That was all she knew. Mr. Boose said he was a board member and he hadn't been to any meetings.

Township Association dinner on Thursday night. Mr. Boose said their attendance was low, has been for a while. Associate membership rates would be increasing to \$60 next year.

Firelands Forward meeting yesterday. They are in a transitional phase since the director left last month. They are trying to re-prioritize what they are doing.

Mr. Boose confirmed that Mr. Strickler sent an email to Firelands Local about paying their rent. Mr. Strickler said he had, but hadn't heard back from them. He felt they have been using the same space, so they could pay the same rent they have been.

Program Review Committee and County 9-1-1 plan. Used to be the Planning Committee and was made up of three members. This is changing; there will now be six members. Mr. Boose said, in the past, they have been meeting after the 9-1-1 Advisory Committee and approving what they want the commissioners to review. This is usually monetary. However, now it says they are going to be required to review and submit to the commissioners a final 9-1-1 plan. Mr. Boose noted this all had to do with next generation. There is a list of five things that have to be in the plan for the next generation system. Mr. Boose thought someone might want to sit down with Mr. Mead and Ms. Spears. Ms. Ziemba said she had already sent them the information.

Statehouse report. Two more bills added that will exempt things from sales tax and use tax. One bill will exempt firearms safety devices. The other one said it will exempt from sales and use tax certain firearms and ammunition and to authorize nonrefundable tax credits for small arms and ammunition manufacturers. Both of these will reduce the amount of money counties get.

Received emails from architects regarding Senior Center and some future meeting dates. Mr. Boose told Ms. Ziemba he did not respond because only about a third of them had to do with commissioner decisions. They did ask if the commissioners agreed on the new number to move forward and go out to bid. He told them they did.

CCAO Regional meetings. Mr. Boose asked if they were going to attend one of these. Northeast Region is in Ravenna, but it is on a Tuesday. Northwest Region is in Lima, on Monday, October 30. Mr. Boose thought they would all pretty much be the same. Mr. Boose and Mr. Wilde both thought they should attend the Northwest Region meeting on October 30.

Mr. Boose was looking at an email that had to do with Brownfield money. It stated that "the following counties need to identify a lead entity". Huron County was one of them. They were asking that Huron County designate the Land Reutilization Corporation as lead entity. Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziemba to check with Mr. McCoy on this.

Mr. Boose said NACo was doing several webinars that could be of interest to them regarding housing. He noted one titled "Using Federal Resources to Support Housing" on September 25. He thought they might want to attend this one.

Ms. Ziemba said she had received a message from Ms. Hoffman stating she would not make it by 10:45 a.m. She said it would be closer to 10:52 a.m.

#### At 10:29 a.m. the board recessed.

At 10:56 a.m. the board resumed regular session. Amy Hoffman, Palmer Energy with Electric Aggregation renewal (townships). Ms. Hoffman said the electric aggregation is up in December. The RFP went out. For Huron County they are looking at roughly 47 million kilowatt hours. RFP was sent to six suppliers, only two responded. Ms. Hoffman said the price to compare utility went up so high, so quickly that suppliers are just not interested in bidding against an 11-cent price. Palmer's recommendation was to go out for 24 months, from December 2023 through December 2025. They are looking at a 6.4 – 6.6 cent range. Ms. Hoffman has given the prosecutor's office the supplier agreements to review. Once those are ready Palmer will do the energy refresh. Both Dynegy and Energy Harbor will come back with pricing on that day. They will order a contract from whoever has the lower rate. She was hoping to have this wrapped up in the next seven to ten days.

Ms. Ziemba confirmed this was for the townships and not for the County buildings. Ms. Hoffman said it was, it was for Bronson, Lyme, Norwalk, Ridgefield, Sherman, Townsend, Wakeman and the Village of North Fairfield. Ms. Hoffman said Norwich Township was going to be on the ballot.

Mr. Boose asked if we currently had a 24-month term. Ms. Hoffman said the current contract started May 2021 and ends December 2023.

Bruce Wilde moved to go with the 24-month term recommended by Palmer Energy for a rate that will be refreshed on a date to be determined. Terry Boose seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

At 11:10 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 September 19, 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 11:10 a.m.

Signatures on File