TUESDAY

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; Randal Strickler, Assistant Prosecutor; Lee Tansey, Engineer; Roger Hunker, Lyme Township Trustee/APEX; Patricia Didion, Citizen; Jon White, Citizen; Jeff Colvin, Citizen; Brad Mesenburg, Citizen; Heath Feichtner, Fair Building Committee; Makenna Laser, Firelands Forward; Jennifer Dodge, CCRC; Delisa Nelson, CCRC; Lenora Minor, DJFS; Ashley Smith, DJFS; Andrea Weis; Shylee Greszler, Norwalk Ohio News; Brian Gott, Norwalk Reflector; Chief Deputy Dave Ditz; Sheriff Todd Corbin, Shawn Newton, HCSO.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the January 16, 2024 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Bruce Wilde made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the January 16, 2024 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Harry Brady seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

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

At 9:05 a.m. Public comment - none

24-053

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 and Then and Now's for Payment Batch # 374088 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion.

*<u>Discussion</u>: Under 9-1-1, Mr. Wilde asked about the CCI core lease for \$15,000. He did not know what that was. Mr. Boose said one of the things that was brought up at the last TAC meeting was to have a contract with them. The reason we didn't was because Ms. Bond told us it was cheaper to not have a contract, it was cheaper to pay individually.

EMA radio batteries. Mr. Boose said they also discussed this at the TAC/9-1-1 meeting that we weren't paying for batteries. Those are for us.

Mr. Boose said he saw the four new sheriff cars when he was out at EMA. He thought he was told they were waiting for radios. Mr. Wilde said they were waiting for two, two are being installed as they speak. Cleveland Communications was installing them. Mr. Boose asked if we were taking radios out of other cars. Mr. Wilde said they were. Mr. Boose suggested, given how long we wait for the cars, we should have the radios in advance so they are ready when the cars arrive.

Ms. Ziemba had a response from EMA. They said "the core server is housed at Cleveland Communications and we pay a service fee to use their server for our radios.".

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

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

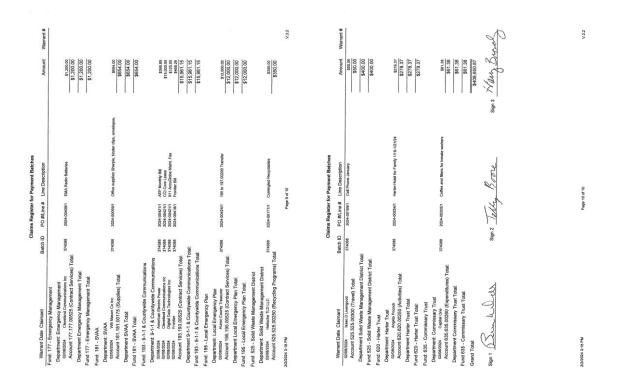
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TUESDAY

TUESDAY

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24-054

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT AND LETTING BIDS FOR THE SECTION LINE ROAD 21 CONCRETE SUPERSTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Huron County Engineer has requested approval for seeking bids for Section Line Road 21 Concrete Superstructure Replacement project; and

WHEREAS, notice of this must be placed in a newspaper of general circulation and on the County's website pursuant to Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby approve of letting bids for Section Line Road 21 Concrete Superstructure Replacement project; and further

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

BE IT RESOLVED, that notice of this will be placed in a newspaper of general circulation and posted on the County's website <u>www.hccommissioners.com</u> accessed by clicking on legal notices, until the bid is opened on Friday, February 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.; and further

BE IT RESOLVED, that the foregoing resolution was adopted and all actions and deliberation 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids may be submitted on or before the bid opening date of Friday, February 23, 2024 until 8:59 a.m. local time, at the Huron County Commissioner's Office, 180 Milan Avenue, Suite 7, Norwalk, Ohio 44857, for the following Project: Section Line Road 21 Concrete Superstructure Replacement. Bids shall be opened and publicly read aloud at 9:00 a.m.

Bid Documents, including contract terms & conditions, must be obtained for a \$20.00 (check only) non-refundable fee from the Huron County Engineer at 150 Jefferson Street Norwalk Ohio 44857, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (holidays excluded). Bidder may elect to have these documents mailed to them for an additional fee of \$10.00 for shipping.

Each bidder is required to furnish with its proposal a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. Bid security furnished in Bond form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety.

Each proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all persons interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of similar size and complexity. The owner intends and requires that this project be completed no later than November 8, 2024.

Bidders must comply with the prevailing wage rates on Public Improvements in Huron County, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Department of Commerce, Bureau of Wage and Hour Administration, (614) 644-2239.

Bid documents must be obtained from the Huron County Engineer, no copies will be accepted. All bid documents must be submitted bound in their entirety.

The Board of County Commissioners of Huron County reserves the right to waive any and all irregularities in the bids or bidding process and may reject any and all bids.

This advertisement may also be viewed by logging on to http://www.hccommissioners.com and clicking on the "Legal Notices" link or http://www.huroncountyengineer.org and clicking on the "Bid Information" link.

Advertise: February 8, 2024

24-055

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING THE BID FOR THE WHITTLESEY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution 24-017 the County Engineer requested authorization to seek bids for Whittlesey Road Improvements; and

WHEREAS, notice was given in accordance with Section 307.87 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, bids were received Friday, January 26, 2024 at 9:00 A.M from the following:

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Erie Blacktop, Inc.	\$808,520.93
Gerken Paving, Inc	\$813,883.50
A.J. Riley, Inc.	\$829,871.50

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby award the bid to Erie Blacktop, Inc., Sandusky, Ohio, for the Whittlesey Road Improvements project; and

FURTHER IT BE RESOLVED, that all further matters relative to this award be coordinated through and with the Huron County Engineer's Office; 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

24-056

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A COUNTY CREDIT CARD TO THE REQUESTING HURON COUNTY OFFICES PURSUANT TO THE MASTER COMMERCIAL CARD AGREEMENT ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR HURON COUNTY AND JPMORGAN CHASE BANK N.A. PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 301.27(F)(2).

Bruce Wilde moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 301.27 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Huron County Commissioners are authorized to acquire a county credit card and to adopt the necessary policies for such county credit card usage; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 23-358, enacting the Huron County Credit Card Policy in accordance with and pursuant to Section 301.27(B) of the Ohio Revised Code relating to the acquisition and use of a county credit card account to be utilized for work related purchases that serve a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 24-049, in which the Board of Huron County Commissioners entered into the Master Commercial Card Agreement with JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A. to acquire a credit card for Huron County, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Huron County Commissioners is in receipt of a number of requests to receive a county credit card from multiple Huron County Offices, received by the Board by the end of business on the 2nd day of February, 2024, accompanied with the completed acknowledgment of the Huron County Credit Card Policy for the same; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Huron County Commissioners, does hereby authorize the following list of Huron County Offices to receive a credit card as detailed in the Master Commercial Card Agreement:

- Auditor
- Board of Elections
- Clerk of Courts
- Commissioners
- Common Pleas Court
- Emergency Management
- Engineer
- Job & Family Services
- Probate & Juvenile Court
- Prosecutor
- Sheriff's Office
- Treasurer

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BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Huron County Commissioners, does hereby authorize and direct the Huron County Treasurer to request the issuance of a new county credit card in the name of the preceding list of Huron County Offices; 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion.

**Discussion:* Mr. Boose asked Ms. Ziemba to send a copy of the credit card policy to those that fell under the commissioners: Commissioners, EMA, Job & Family Services. Ms. Ziemba said Mr. Stephens had sent it to everyone; they had to sign acknowledging the policy.

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

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

24-057

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO THE HURON COUNTY 911 PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, an elected official from within the county must be appointed by the board of county commissioners to the County 911 Program Review Committee pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 128.06; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby appoints Sheriff Todd Corbin to the Huron County 911 Program Review Committee; 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

24-058

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY INTERTEK PROFESSIONAL SERVICE INDUSTRIES, INC (hereinafter referred to as INTERTEK PSI) FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING AND SPECIAL INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE HURON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER PROJECT

Bruce Wilde moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Huron County Senior Center Project requires Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspection Services and the Architect (Garmann Miller Inc.) recommends Intertek PSI to complete these services;

WHEREAS, Intertek PSI submitted a proposal to complete the Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspection Services at a total estimated cost of \$24,740.00; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves the Proposal as submitted by Intertek PSI for the Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspection Services for the Huron County Senior Center Project, so long as the contracted terms are approved by the prosecutor, as attached hereto and expressly incorporated by reference herein; and further

and

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and

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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion.

Bruce Wilde moved to amend Resolution 24-058 to include the language "so long as the contracted terms are approved by the prosecutor". Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

The roll being called upon the adoption of the AMENDED Resolution 24-058, the vote resulted as follows:

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

*On file

24-059

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS TO THE 306B SOUTH NORWALK ROAD PROPERTY

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)(l) 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.

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 interior and external renovations (such as sidewalk replacement, masonry/tuckpointing, flooring, lighting, signage, etc.) at the County's 306B S. Norwalk Road Property 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

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners does hereby authorize the use of ARPA funds for interior and exterior renovations to the County's 306B S. Norwalk Road Property, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000; 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.

Harry Brady seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

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

IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL

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

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

Pete Welch & Steve Minor, Buildings & Grounds, to Minster, Ohio to meet with Garmann Miller on February 12, 2024.

Art Mead & Kye Stevens, EMA, NWS Cleveland for EMAO meeting on March 15, 2024.

SIGNINGS – None

Commissioner Boose stated they had budget updates from Ms. Ziemba, but they may or may not have time to go through them today. He thought they had everybody's budget. There are about four or five departments that are coming in. We have just about all the information we need, except for the final estimate from the Budget Commission. He asked Mr. Strickler if he had talked to Mr. Sitterly. Mr. Strickler said he did. As far as Mr. Boose could remember, this is the latest they have ever received it. We sent out an email last week asking them to be quicker than February 14 and have not heard back. Mr. Boose said they do have some numbers, but those could change. All we can do is keep moving.

At 9:30 a.m. Cecilia Blevins, Board of Elections budget. Ms. Blevins presented a request for computers.

KAREN I. PRELIPP (D), CHAIR R	OBERT DUNCAN (R) SHARON HARWOOD (R) GINGER PACKERT (D
HURON CO	DUNTY BO	DARD OF ELECTIONS
CECILIA A. BLEVINS, DIRE	ECTOR (R)	BEN KLINE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (D)
		VENUE STE 4
TEL ERHO		OHIO 44857 3238 FAX: (419) 668-8710
huron@ohiosos.g	ov	www.huron.boe.ohio.gov
Quotes:		
Brown Enterprises price per com	muter \$087 v4	= \$3948
Brown Enterprises price per con		
and a second process process per second		\$4740.00
CDW-G price per computer	\$1155.94 >	4=\$4623.76
CDW-G price per monitor	\$110.38 x	4 = \$ 441.52
		\$5065.28
Net Point price per computer	\$1225.58	/4 =€5302 32
Net Point price per computer		4 = \$ 1092.76
rierronni price per monitor	9219.17 A	\$6395.08

She explained they are in need of four computers for the absentee area. These will be used downstairs for early voting also. Currently they are using laptops, but they are close to end of life. They have served their purpose, and it is hard to read the screens. It would be more expensive to replace these than to replace them with desktop computers. The laptops will still be used to do the absentee mail upstairs. Ms. Blevins was trying to be economical. But they need to be replaced according to the Secretary of State's directive. Brown Enterprises had the overall cheapest quote. Mr. Riedy also got them a quote from CDW. She did not have a problem going with the cheaper monitor through CDW. She would like to get the computers through Brown if the board approved.

Ms. Blevins went on to explain they have an issue with the server that has the voter registration on it. It has Windows 2012 on it, which is no longer supported. They have to go with a 2016 server, which will be getting to end of life in a couple years. In 2025 they are getting an update on voter registration; they can't do anything in 2024. They need to do something about the server for this year. They have one quote; Mr. Riedy is working on another one from CDW. The quote they have is \$885 for the Windows 2016 server. The labor to install it will have to be done by the voter registration vendor. They are estimating about three hours to convert everything over to that server and to their computers. This comes to \$337.50 for the three hours. Mr. Boose asked if this was something Mr. Riedy could do. Ms. Blevins explained it was a virtual server, and with the security directive everything is locked down. They use their consultant, Netpoint. She did not know if Mr. Riedy could do it or not. Mr. Wilde questioned the 2016 server. Mr. Boose asked if that was the year. Mr. Strickler explained this was the server program, they were not buying an eight-year-old server. Ms. Blevins clarified it was the software. Mr. Brady thought she had said they will need to make changes in 2025, so she was looking for a patch to get to that point. Ms. Blevins agreed. Mr. Wilde thought it looked like, with Brown and Netpoint, the total was about \$6,000. Ms. Blevins said it was \$5,612.02 if they go the CDW monitors.

Ms. Blevins presented the chargeback amount from last year. They were able to charge back all the comp time that was paid out. She explained they are busier with ballots and petitions in odd years. Even years they don't have as much paperwork, they just have more voters. Mr. Boose thought the charges were interesting. He asked what they were based on. Ms. Blevins explained it was based on ballot prices, how many issues a precinct has on the ballot – they get charged for each issue they have on the ballot.

Bruce Wilde moved to authorize the Board of Elections to purchase from Brown Enterprises price per computer 987x4=3948; CDW-G price per monitor $110.38 \times 4=441.52$; and Net Point 2016 Server 885+labor 337.50 = 1,222.50. Harry Brady 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

Commissioner Wilde update:

Board of Revision meeting last week. This went longer than expected, it was a CAUV. Mr. Wilde said the gentleman failed to file, so they instructed him how to go about it and made sure he understood. Mr. Boose asked if he could still get it for this year. Mr. Wilde thought he could, if he qualified. Also, they had a trailer from 1997 that had been on the books and nobody could find anyone. They found out it was destroyed long ago and another trailer was put in. Nobody knows where the trailer is so they just got rid of it and the taxes are gone. Mr. Wilde said there were 10 mobile homes, many at Key Estates, that had been excavated and put in dumpsters. Mobile homes disappear; nobody knows where they went. The people are gone, the trailer is gone. The county spends a lot of time on it. The taxes for one was twelve cents and one was thirteen cents.

At 9:48 a.m. <u>Roger Hunker and Heath Feichtner, Fair Building Committee</u>. Mr. Hunker wanted to come in and let them know the Fair Building Committee was back together. They have some ideas put together and have pared down the building significantly. They would like to set up a meeting with commissioners to show them the new plans. Mr. Boose asked if it could be a combination meeting between the Fair Building Committee, the Fair Board aka the Agricultural Society, and a commissioner so we have everybody together from the start. Mr. Hunker said that could be done; most of the committee was made up of Fair Board members. Mr. Boose understood, but wanted to make sure to include members of the executive committee. Mr. Boose said he appreciated that they went back and worked on this. Just because the other building didn't work out doesn't mean we don't need a pig barn. He asked, out of curiosity, if the barn will be just for pigs. Mr. Hunker said what they were working on would still be able to be used during the fair as a show arena, and to house pigs and goats. They are still hoping to replace all three of those buildings. Mr. Brady knew the board had set aside some money a couple years ago. He thought we

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definitely need a new barn and he was all about some support for that barn. The question is how much money. Mr. Boose requested that they try to meet soon and keep things moving. Mr. Brady suggested that, since Mr. Boose has worked with this for a while, that he continue to work with them. Mr. Boose was okay with that.

<u>Commissioner Brady update</u>:

WAEDC tomorrow at 11:00. Mr. Brady plans to attend. He will ask Mr. Boose's question. He does not think it was anything the commissioners put out. Firelands Forward is not going away that he was aware of and we are not going away from Firelands Forward. So, he will ask.

HCDC on Thursday morning at the Fisher Titus auditorium.

At 9:58 a.m. the board recessed.

At 10:08 a.m. the board resumed regular session with Firelands Forward, the Child Care Resource Center, and the MyFaith Learning Center. Makenna Laser, Firelands Forward. Andrea Weis with Willard Child Development Center; Jennifer Dodge, Executive Director of Child Care Resource Center; Delisa Nelson, Director of Program Innovation, Child Care Resource Center. Mr. Boose thanked them for sending the report. He wanted to make a note about all the work they had done; that report was really awesome. He thought child care was one of the most important things they need to address in Huron County. There is some short-term planning and some long-term planning that needs to be done. Mr. Boose noted they also had Buildings & Grounds staff in attendance.

Ms. Dodge said that when they started this whole process it was really meant to be a collaborative partnership. There is nothing about how this process started or how it is operating now that is any singular entity. In fact, there are folks that are involved in this process that aren't here today. We want to make sure that is noted. When they drafted the initial study, they did it through a survey process. They worked with Fireland's Forward. This helped us identify, from Fireland's Forward perspective, the three top areas we were going to focus on. That was child care, transportation, and housing. These impact whether you can get an employee to move to your area, take the job long term and stick with you. Maintaining employees as well. So that was really the driver behind this.

Ms. Dodge explained child care was the first to actually take action with the needs assessment. We did a survey where they reached out to employees of some of the major businesses. It originally started in Erie County, but then spanned out into what is the Firelands Region - they included Ottawa and Huron Counties in that process. The report provides some of the anecdotal stuff that gets to the heart of what each individual parent or employee is dealing with. As we did that report we came out with a needs assessment. Since then Ms. Dodge knew the housing report had been out. She was not sure about the transportation piece. Mr. Boose said they were right in the middle of that, they have taken a big step but there are still some things we need to work on. He noted that transportation was in the same building they were discussing. Ms. Dodge remembered that and thought it was important; there was some synergy to that that could really help them overall, kind of expediting that plan and making it work for everyone.

Ms. Dodge continued. As we move forward in this process, a lot of the work that we have done currently has been driven via the foundations in Erie County. Right now they are in the process of writing for a scholarship program for Erie County that will be a sort of public-private partnerships. It is focused initially to get the foundation started, but they have created a fund at the Erie County Community Foundation that employers can put money into to help support their employees. Where the scholarship fund is initially going to be started and funded, it will go away. They are looking at building on the side of it being more of an employee benefit and then utilizing community funds to actually activate the scholarship program. Mr. Boose asked how the administrative part worked as far as all the things they were doing for child care in Erie County. Ms. Dodge stated that the Child Care Resource Center is a five-county regional resource and referral agency. She was what she called the lead on the project for child care. Their agency works with families to help them find child care, helping them pay for it and helping them understand what is quality and what isn't. They also work with the child care providers themselves. They are an integral part of Step Up to Quality, which is Ohio's five-star rating program. They push for providers to have what they need to be five-star programs. Ms. Dodge stated they do a lot of advocacy as well. They take what they learn and go to D.C. and Columbus, trying to ensure that the things they are doing for families, for children and those focused areas, are truly the investment that families and children need. They do a lot of community planning. They work with organizations and businesses.

Mr. Boose said that the one thing he wanted to make clear, because people talk about why would the government be getting into the child care business. He agrees, he really doesn't want to be in it. But there are some economic levels he thought only the government can help in solving some of the problems. Ms. Dodge said some of the problem, when you look at the amount of subsidy that goes into a school district, just to make it operate, its astronomical. So how is it that we have decided that five-year olds are where we start, and not at birth where the brain development begins and where we could really impact kids. But Ms.

Dodge felt subsidy was the wrong word. We are really investing. Because if we are not investing at this end, we are going to be doing that at another end. Whether that is prisons, or whether that is in schools, all of these kids needing special or extra help. We really want to have the impact happen before they even get into schools. There are studies she can provide that could show you those things. She thought if they could change the vernacular from subsidy and look at it from the investment lens we are in the right place. Then anything done around this is an investment. That is part of the reason they are taking this very broad approach for partnership. They would need some help initially to get things up and going. But their idea behind this is that employers should be a part of that conversation. The employee needs to be a part of the conversation. Mr. Boose said that was why he agreed with their broad approach. Because the commissioners know very little about child care, other than that there is a need. Whether it is Childrens' Services, or whatever it may be, it involves workforce development.

Mr. Brady had a question. He comes from foster care and was in the system for a while. Fortunately, he was adopted at a young age. His interest in this was because of his personal childhood where it was a single mom, and how do you balance being able to work and take care of your kids. We know we have a problem, we know we need child care. And the commissioners have a space that could potentially be rehabbed for that. He asked if they were looking to potentially expand their operation into the S. Norwalk Road building. Then the question, how does that work with the different entities in the building? Were they looking at getting a care provider in? Ms. Dodge said they don't have a care provider lined up at this point. She said they have had two tours of the building and asked for some schematics. The information she presented was based off information they gleaned from the tour and those pieces of information. Mr. Boose pointed out this was kind of limited. Ms. Dodge said the concept can be tweaked, it can be made to do what it needs to do, and even improved with more information. Their goal was to bring in a practitioner, an agency to actually take it over. They have provided some loose financials to kind of give a five-year projection on how they see it.

She thought what was hard with child care was a lot of times they were talking about the social circumstances that have put people in places. They don't have an impact on those things, but what they do have an impact on is the child and what they could be doing for the families. She thought it was a good idea to try to separate child care, which is the programming, experiences, all of that, from what funds it. They use every dollar they can to try to ensure that quality is being provided. And the government does come in and tell them how to do that. There are regulations, those are geared more toward safety and security. Then the high-quality side of it is ensuring there are great people with the kids. Mr. Boose thought there was another side of it, and that was affordability. Ms. Dodge agreed, saying it was beyond a challenge. Mr. Boose said their thoughts were, without knowing specifically what they wanted to do with the building, was there some way they can also make it affordable. He thought providing the facility would help, because that takes away huge costs. These costs can keep people from getting into the business. Mr. Boose told Ms. Dodge that EHOVE is really interested in what they have to say. They are interested in trying to figure out how to do this. Ms. Dodge said when it comes to affordability it is the same strategy they are using to make this happen. You are going to have to tie all of the boats together. Child care doesn't have the same investment from the federal government that school districts have. A vast majority of child care programs operate on, if there is a profit margin. it is a shoestring. When you talk about the cost being so high, if they were actually charging what it cost to provide the care, it would be much higher. Mr. Boose thought it was almost like they have to provide a service, as opposed to a profitable business.

Mr. Brady said he was still asking the same question. Firelands Local is in that building, now they have NCAT. What are the implications, legally and practically, of having a child care service in that building? We are providing the space, who is actually going to provide the care? Ms. Dodge said they would have to come up with some way to separate the child care program from the other entities. Just from licensing alone, the background checks and requirements to be in the same environment with the children are pretty stringent. There would have to be some safe guards from that standpoint. Meaning, shared spaces. Other things would have to be inside the child care space, and we would have to make sure the kids had bathrooms when talking about the renovation side of this. Ms. Dodge thought, coming into this, there needs to be an investment. She thought the way they coined it was really a strong step forward when looking at affordability. Those fixed costs, they never change. If they can control those, that really helps in the long run. If an entity comes into this program, they should probably look at some kind of an arrangement, whether it be an MOU or a lease agreement. Over time, they could get to a place where they would still be providing space in terms of what the lease looks like, but you could literally be leasing the space out to an entity to operate the child care program. That could be more of a phased kind of process. In the beginning, with the initial startup, renovation, getting it going, we would be looking for an entity to come in and act as the child care program operating within the space. She said they haven't done anything like that at this point because there just isn't enough information for them to take that big of a step forward. As soon as they know this is something the commissioners can commit to, she feels they could utilize an entity that is already a strong entity. They would come in, know what they are doing, know how to operate, and then with our help and assistance, ensure that high quality piece is a part of that, the support pieces are there. Then her organization would be able to work with them on grant writing, on connecting all of the pieces and parts that need to come into a child care program.

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Mr. Brady clarified they would be looking for the commissioners to make a commitment to provide a hard asset. Then some other entity, not the county itself, would be providing the soft assets, would be the facilitators of the program. Ms. Dodge said that was correct, they were not asking the commissioners of Huron County to provide child care. Mr. Brady just wanted to make that very clear so people understand that the commissioners are not getting into the child care business. As a commissioner, he didn't have a problem providing a space that can be leased out for use by a child care provider as long as the county itself is not the one running it. Ms. Dodge thought they wanted to get the county away from the liability side as well. That is the same conversation they have been having with the hospitals. Firelands Health actually had child care years ago and something occurred and they are very fearful from a liability side. But they were looking at it from a business aspect, with a lease agreement or some kind of entity agreement separating the two.

Mr. Wilde asked Ms. Dodge what her role would be if we had a provider in there and she really had no authority over them. Would she be an asset or a help to them? She said they already are, but they would be inserting themselves, especially in the initial process, to ensure success. We want to make sure when the program opens it is fully staffed and they are prepared - they also handle training. Mr. Wilde asked if there was a fee for what they do. Ms. Dodge said typically there is, if they are going to spend a lot of time. But as far as the broader group that they are a part of, they have done a lot of the work for minimal expense. The only thing they have charged for up until now has been the initial needs assessment for the Firelands Region. She thought it might have been \$1,500. So, they have not been charging, they have been a part of what she would call a partnership or collaborative that is supporting the work moving forward.

Mr. Boose stated that he didn't think we should look at this as an end process. It was a starting process, and that doesn't mean five years down the road we couldn't have five locations. This is the location we are starting with, it is what is available to us, but that doesn't mean we think we have this problem solved. Ms. Dodge said it could even be impactful in bringing in new business into the region because they have already seen child care having that kind of impact.

Mr. Brady asked Ms. Minor and Ms. Smith for their thoughts. Ms. Minor thought they have a great plan put together. Any time you can put children in a safe place and get families into the workforce then our community is going to be better. A partnership is definitely needed. Mr. Brady asked Ms. Minor what type of funding was available for this type of operation. He knows her agency is able to fund certain things, does this fall in line with those things? Ms. Minor said it would depend on what the provider was going to take. Are they going to work with the state for the Stepping Up quality that Ms. Dodge talked about? As far as her agency and what funds are available, it would depend on the family dynamic. Mr. Brady imagined there were a group of people that would use this that already fall within the service needs that Job & Family Service may be providing.

Mr. Boose wanted to wrap it up and talk about where they were going. He stated he was all for moving forward with a child care related movement out at the building, and said he would talk to the other two commissioners. Mr. Boose thought what Ms. Dodge needed from them was some kind of a commitment. One of the things she brought up was that they can help provide training. He would have no problem with part of that space being used for training. One area that he didn't know if they had talked much about was the entrance and how get into the facility. If they are going to use ARPA money they have to have that allocated by the end of the year. Those were the types of things he would like to see them moving on, assuming both commissioners agree. Mr. Wilde thought it sounded like they needed to put some walls up to keep everybody up to standards and safe. Mr. Brady agreed.

Mr. Boose suggested as a next step having Mr. Welch and Mr. Minor go out with them and start answering questions. We don't have any clue as to what is needed for child care. And a lot of the questions they had for Mr. Boose were building specific. He thought we need to make sure it is doable for what you want to do.

At 11:05 a.m. the board recessed.

At 11:07 a.m. the board resumed regular session with <u>Sheriff Todd Corbin, Chief Dave Ditz, Shawn</u> <u>Newton – Budget Discussion</u>. Sheriff Corbin stated they had sent over a copy of their 2024 budget and asked if they would like to go over it line by line. Mr. Boose said he did not have any questions when he read over it, he thought it was a very reasonable, very conservative budget compared to last year. Mr. Brady agreed. Mr. Wilde wanted to mention the doors and windows, and the stainless steel around the sink and dishwasher. Mr. Brady said they had approved that already. Ms. Ziemba stated that has been updated. They sheriff was no longer requesting funding for the stainless steel around the sink and dishwasher in the kitchen. They have already handled that. Sheriff Corbin said they took care of it last year. Ms. Ziemba said she was working Mr. Ditz on the door and window replacement and getting some updated quotes. Now they are requesting stainless steel around the showers. Mr. Ditz had the estimate for that. Ms. Ziemba said they were also requesting jail door locks, at approximately \$10,105. To Mr. Boose, those all seemed like things that could come out of 315/Jail Permanent Improvement. Mr. Ditz said he has already started a

request just so there is no confusion. It will outline all the requests for Jail Permanent Improvement. Mr. Brady said they see there has been something of a delay with the vehicles because they were waiting on radios. Sheriff Corbin said they back-ordered the two radios and don't have them in yet. As soon as they come in they can put them in the new cruisers. Cleveland Communications was in yesterday and did the install into one car, the other they are still working on. They are working on with Mr. Kleinhenz to get cars decommissioned and out of the fleet. Mr. Brady asked if he saw a problem with ordering any more radios, and explained they were talking about trying to get them here before the vehicles get here. Mr. Boose said they wait so long for the vehicles to come, they don't have a problem if they need to go out and put a set of four radios on the shelf. Mr. Ditz said with the two radios they have coming, one will go in a cruiser and one will be bench stock. The reason they were short was because they decommissioned a van and the van did not have a radio in it.

Mr. Brady said they had a jail transport vehicle and noted they were looking for another one. He asked if that was something that needs to be in the budget, or was it already in the budget? Mr. Ditz said he has reached out and is trying to find a jail transport van. They are not making them. Mr. Boose asked if they were made special so that you can't take a van and convert it. Mr. Ditz stated he would prefer to have the police package because it is a little heavier duty. It does get more wear and tear. Also it is made to fit the container system to transport people, which ensures their safety as opposed to putting them in the back of a 15 passenger van. Mr. Brady said he knew they were looking for a jail van. He wanted to make sure they had the money in the budget so when it did happen they had the funds available. Mr. Boose thought what Mr. Brady was getting at, we had a program for road patrol. We really don't have a program for the jail stuff. Mr. Brady asked if they needed to start budgeting for replacement of jail related vehicles, like transport. Sheriff Corbin said he would like to. They have always just used a regular cruiser. What he is trying to do is stop having cruisers all over the place and get a larger vehicle. Normally when they go to court they don't just take one or two people. They usually have a bulk of people that go up at one time. Mr. Boose said the other part of that, when they talked about the schedule for road patrol, it was kind of like six years is a long time. Instead of moving a road patrol vehicle over to do transport, he asked if they should have a separate schedule for other vehicles so they aren't relying on a six-year old vehicle that becomes an eight-year old vehicle because you can't get it for two years. Mr. Boose thought if it was a vehicle used mostly for the jail they could use some of the half-percent sales tax money. Do that before they move it over to Permanent Improvement. Sheriff Corbin said that was what he was trying to do, he was trying to have that marked differently than a cruiser. That way it is used only for the jail. Mr. Brady said having a program will make it easier for future administrations. Mr. Ditz said even though the road vehicles work, they need more capacity than two people in the back seat for the jail transport. But they don't even have a ballpark right now on what it will cost. Mr. Brady said if there was someway they could get a reasonable idea of what it would cost, then they could earmark it in the budget. Mr. Boose said what they have been able to do in other areas is to start budgeting money for it. Mr. Wilde thought it would take at least two years to get one; they could budget half and half. Sheriff Corbin said the issue is they always try to keep things local. If they can go out of state they can probably get it sooner. But they would prefer not to. Mr. Brady thought it may be a case of getting one out of state to start, and then later down the road staying in state. He understood what they were saying but if the need is there they need to fill it. Mr. Ditz said he would try to get a number for them. Sheriff Corbin said they expected to start at \$80,000 because they were talking about the container for inside the car, mounting the different holders. Because when you are transporting prisoners they are your responsibility and you have to make sure it meets all the safety codes. Mr. Boose said they would work on their side as to how to put the money aside for that.

Sheriff Corbin said he was not a big fan of tasers; they are expensive. They presented was a five-year contract. Basically, at two years they replace all of the tasers and cartridges. It is an all encompassing contract. Mr. Ditz said the reason they were looking at this was because the tasers they have are no longer supported. We had to buy taser cartridges from non-taser companies just to do training. He likes these a lot better. The taser goes into a docking station to be charged. When you dock it, it downloads the uses, so you know when the taser was used. Sheirff Corbin said it was all encompassing - it was for maintenance and operation. Mr. Wilde clarified there were no other fees in the next five years; we get them replaced, and it is \$131,000 over five years. Mr. Ditz said they keep track of the deployments of the taser cartridge. When you hit a certain number they send you replacements. Mr. Wilde liked that they would continue to support and send you what you need. Mr. Ditz stated the package also includes seats in the instructor class, so they can do the in-house training. Ms. Ziemba had a question. It was \$26,227.20 per year, for five years. She asked if it was already included in the budget they submitted. Sheriff Corbin said it would need to be added into it. Mr. Ditz said it went up slightly, it was now \$27,967.68.

Discussion regarding the possibility of paying for education for police officers with a requirement that they work for the county for a certain number of years after that.

At 11:46 a.m. the board recessed

At 12:01 p.m. the board resumed regular session.

TUESDAY

Commissioner Boose update:

Mr. Boose said he met with Kristen Cardone and Oriana House to discuss the facility they are working on. He is going to see if they can use some of the opioid settlement money to help them. Mr. Boose told them to come back with a specific ask.

Meeting yesterday with the architect. Went over and looked at property lines. Discussed marking it so the contractors know where it is. Mr. Welch checked into it and found that is the responsibility of the contractor, not ours.

Mr. Boose went in and viewed the Public Defender's office last week. They have a request for some additional shelving upstairs. Mr. Boose would like Mr. Welch and Mr. Minor to take a look and determine whether the floor can support more shelving and files.

Willard Chamber. Mr. Boose said they need to make a decision on membership. It is \$75 for membership. It is \$200 for a gold sponsor which includes advertising and two meals at the banquet.

Harry Brady moved to approve the membership and gold sponsorship for the Willard Chamber. 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

Mr. Boose was trying to get a number for the ARPA money. When he looked at the enrichment center project, it isn't as easy as adding the architect fees and the construction costs. Today they approved \$24,000 that wasn't in the construction costs or the architect costs. About six months ago they asked Garmann/Miller for a project estimate. Ms. Ziemba sent it back to Ms. Holtzapple and asked to have it updated with all the actual costs we have now, as well as the estimated costs. Mr. Boose was hoping they could come up with a total dollar amount for the enrichment center so they have a better idea of where they are with the ARPA money. Mr. Boose wanted to over-allocate the ARPA money with a contingency to pay for it out of Permanent Improvements. If any of the projects run short and they don't reach that amount we will lose that money.

Mr. Boose thought the figures that would be hard to get for budget were for some of the projects they were talking about doing and putting a value on them. He also thought, after today's presentation on child care, that they may need to be thinking about setting some money aside if the commissioners agree to move forward. There are some expensive things that may have to be done out there. If they want to use ARPA money they need to get on them. If we decide to do them we have to decide if we want to budget for them out of ARPA or out of Permanent Improvement. Mr. Brady said we need to know what we are doing with our existing buildings with HVAC and roofs.

Mr. Boose thought VOCA seemed more and more complicated. Mr. Strickler reminded him that they had to segregate the money they had that they didn't know where it came from. That was put in VOCA-B. VOCA-A is the current VOCA fund that Ms. Border is solely paid out of. Mr. Boose said there was also carry forward balances. Mr. Stickler said the carry forward was the \$22,000 the commissioners gave them for the first quarter. What he did was, he used the December 31 number and then subtracted that from what they need for the entire year. That is why he thought the ask was what it was. Mr. Boose said he would like to get it on an annual basis, so they don't have to come back in December. Mr. Strickler thought what Mr. Boose was saying was he also wanted January to March 31 of next year. Mr. Boose agreed, so every year from here on out we can include those numbers. Mr. Strickler said he would do that today. He asked if they were considering giving those employees the 5% raise they talked about. Mr. Boose said he had it marked that what Mr. Strickler gave them does not include the 5%. Mr. Strickler said if they give the 5% increase that will increase the \$22,000 number. Mr. Boose said whatever percent they give raises, he thought that should be included. Mr. Strickler will do that through the first quarter of 2025.

Mr. Strickler mentioned the \$20,000 request in their general fund budget for the trial. Mr. Sitterly will have to explain how that is all going to work. He thought they may want to put it in Contingencies in case the trial does happen. If it doesn't, they won't have to do it. Mr. Boose said they could put it in Transfer Out so it was ready to go. Mr. Strickler said it was a one-time ask for 2024 and Mr. Sitterly would be able to explain why it was needed.

Mr. Wilde said he attended three interviews last Friday. Ms. Ziemba said they did offer the IT position to someone and she did accept. That will be on for next week. There has been no response for the receptionist position. They have received a lot of applications, but they don't respond when we reply. She is reviewing some additional resumes.

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Ms. Ziemba had received an email from Ms. Crable, who had gotten a telephone call from Michelle at Common Pleas Court. They had some items that need to be fixed and were not sure if they paid for them or if the commissioners were responsible. The system to buzz people in and out was not working properly and they were having problems with the intercom system. Mr. Boose and Mr. Wilde both agreed these were Common Pleas issues.

At 12:30 p.m. Bruce Wilde moved to adjourn. Harry Brady 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 February 6, 2024.

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 12:30 p.m.

Signatures on File