

REGULAR SESSION

THURSDAY

JULY 26, 2007

The Board of Huron County Commissioners met this date in Regular Session. Roll being called found the following members present: Mike Adelman, Gary W. Bauer, Ralph A. Fegley.

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 305.14 the Record of the Proceedings of the July 19, 2007 meeting(s) were presented to the Board. Mike Adelman made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the July 19, 2007 meeting(s) and approve as presented. Gary W. Bauer seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

Aye – Mike Adelman
Aye – Gary W. Bauer
Aye – Ralph A. Fegley

Gary W. Bauer moved to bring resolution 07-237 off the table. Mike Adelman seconded the motion. Discussion in this regard. Mr. Schnellinger did not appropriate funds for “Help Me Grow” administration. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye - Mike Adelman
Aye - Gary W. Bauer
Aye - Ralph A. Fegley

07-237

IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS WITHIN THE HURON COUNTY MR/DD FUND #110

Gary W. Bauer moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there is a need for an appropriation adjustment; and

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Huron County Commissioners hereby approves the following appropriation adjustment:

FROM:	Dept.	Account	Fund	Amount	TO:	Dept.	Account	Fund	Amount
	110	00295	110	\$5,000.00		110	00300	110	\$10,000.00
		Professional Services					Travel		
	110	00280	110	\$5,000.00					
		Contract Services							and further

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board is instructed to certify a copy of this resolution to the Huron County Auditor and the department requesting said adjustment; and further

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

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

Aye - Mike Adelman
Aye - Gary W. Bauer
Aye - Ralph A. Fegley

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**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING REQUESTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF OVER \$500.00
SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD JULY 26, 2007**

Mike Adelman moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, requests for expenditures of over \$500.00 have been submitted for approval by the Board of Huron County Commissioners as follows:

Huron County Department of Job & Family Services

Executone	Monitor for Switchboard Phone System	\$1,000.00	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 \$500.00 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.

Gary W. Bauer seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye - Mike Adelman
Aye - Gary W. Bauer
Aye - Ralph A. Fegley

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, child support is an essential element in providing family stability, helping children grow up safe and healthy, and keeping children and families out of poverty; and

WHEREAS, an effective child support program involves working partnerships between county, state and federal agencies, parents, legislators, judges, advocacy groups, employers, law enforcement agencies prosecutors and many others; and

WHEREAS, throughout these partnerships Huron County collected \$12,281,661 in child support payments in 2006, and for every \$22.18 they collect CSEA administrative cost is \$1.00 for a performance measure of 22:1; and

WHEREAS in 2006, Huron County has completed 105 paternity actions and are currently providing child support services for 6059 cases on behalf of deserving children; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Child Support program to continue to build upon its current success to secure the financial welfare and families of Huron County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, We, the Huron County Commissioners, do hereby designate:

CHILD SUPPORT
AWARENESS MONTH
AUGUST 2007

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Throughout Huron County and encourage all Huron County residents to promote partnerships that ensure that the children of Huron County receive the financial support they deserve.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF

We have hereunto subscribed our names this 26th day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Seven.

HURON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mike Adelman, Gary W. Bauer, Ralph A. Fegley

IN THE MATTER OF TRAVEL REQUEST

Gary W. Bauer moved to approve the following travel request this day. Mike Adelman seconded the motion. The roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

Aye - Mike Adelman
Aye - Gary W. Bauer
Aye - Ralph A. Fegley

Gary W. Bauer, Commissioner, on August 1, 2007, to Delaware, Ohio, for WIA Area 7 meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR LEAVE

Merlin Baker/Buildings & Grounds/sick/8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon July 24, 2007; sick/12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. July 26, 2007.

Darwin Pesnell/Buildings & Grounds/personal time/8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. August 20, 2007.

Peter Welch/Solid Waste District/sick/7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. July 24, 2007.

Tom Ashleman/Commissioners/vacation/8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. July 30, 2007.

Administrator/Clerk's Report

Cheryl Nolan presented a CORSA invitation to the next annual CORSA meeting which will be held in Columbus, on August 24, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. Ralph Fegley will attend with Tom Ashleman and Mike Meinke.

Assistant Prosecutor's Report

Daivia reported that she had faxed the property sales paper work to ODOT in regards to the easement for stream mitigation at the landfill.

At 9:40 a.m. Tom Ashleman came before the board in regards to training in safety issues. Mr. Ashleman stated that he has a computer set up from the Department and Job & Family Services to do training, the only part that is needed is the modem. Stated that it is all set except for the modem. The board agreed to hook up a modem and to have MT Technology do this service.

Gary Bauer discussed walking through the energy project construction and also doing a tour through with Viking Technologies, to hook up Clerk of Courts new phone system.

Mike Adelman discussed a few calendar events. Mr. Adelman also discussed the issues with the home on Grant Street, in New London which is a CHIP project.

Ralph Fegley stated that he had had a conversation with Bart Recker, Poggemeyer Design Group in regards to the energy project. Mr. Recker stated that they are going to start up the air-conditioning units on Aug 8th. Also had a conversation in regards to the gas line situation.

At 9:55 a.m. the board recessed

At 10:44 a.m. the regular session resumed

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Huron County Commission President, Ralph Fegley opened this session with Erie County Commissioners, and representatives from FAA, ODOT Aviation, Reynolds, Smith 7 Hills, Inc., Consultants, Greater Cleveland Partnership, and General David Stringer, Director, Plum Brook Management Office. Following introductions Joe Jackson, of Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc. discussed the feasibility study on Erie County's needs for a new airport, and stressed the benefits for the entire region. Discussed the grant funds for this study and how they came about. Mr. Jackson stated that this is the beginning of a long journey. The conclusion of the feasibility study is that an airport is certainly feasible. Another piece of the feasibility is if the airport is eligible for federal funding. Working very closely with FAA the Erie County locations fail to meet one of the geographic eligibility criteria, the other airports are simply too close. The point of conclusion at this point is perhaps if one of the existing airports in the area could merge, could be replaced, could fall in line and be located closer to the Plum Brook facility it would be a good thing and might allow the airport to be eligible. Commissioner McKeen stated that before we go any further with this, she would like to state that when Erie County started this with the grant from Marcy Kaptur's office, the Greater Cleveland Partnership came into our area. At this time Commissioner McKeen asked Carol Caruso, from the Greater Cleveland Partnership to speak to their part in this. Ms. Caruso stated that they have great interest in this project because we do community advocacy for NASA Plum Brook, as they have been working very closely with Plum Brook to make sure that they get their fair share of work from NASA headquarters. Recently NASA was successful in getting the contract for the next trip to the moon, and testing of certain pieces will be done at Plum Brook, which is a huge step forward for Ohio overall. It put NASA Glenn in what they refer to as the space club. Ms. Caruso explained the grants that have been received to do this work for a land use study at Plum Brook which made them quickly realize that if NASA Glenn's and Plum Brook's future is to be very solid they need a runway at NASA Glenn. Ms. Caruso stated that their goal is to find funding to build a NASA runway which means it would be very simple pretty much just a runway and lights and before they function as an airport they want to make sure that their plans coincide exactly with yours. So if there is a benefit financially or otherwise with collocating them that is the interest. At this point Mr. Fegley asked for comments from the FAA and how they see this situation. Ernie Gubry FAA stated that they have received the draft report, and have had a meeting with Erie County and their consultant to go over the report. Mr. Gubry stated that there is a table in there with some figures, and Erie County based on the report does not appear to be eligible for their own NPIAS airport. If there is going to be development of this area it is going to have to be some sort of a regional airport and the FAA's role in this is to promote local planning of these issues, we do not dictate where airports are or are not, we feel it is best for the local communities to reach some sort of a consensus and with that in mind we are glad that a study is taking place. That is about were they are at this time. Happy to see meetings like this for communities to meet and discuss their concerns and their issues with one another, have a good public involvement. Mr. Fegley asked if he could cover the rules that FAA follows on and what the limitations are of the rules that are associated and also comment about NASA. Generally we have a plan for national airports that are updated every two years, and explained the plans. Mr. Gubry stated that Erie County would just not qualify for their own airport that there are just too many other airports in the area. Mr. Adelman asked that in this particular area what other airport have the NPIAS qualifications in addition to Huron County, Ottawa Counties. Mr. Gubry stated that there are thirteen (13) that are currently in the NPIAS, which are Ashland, Crawford County, Erie County at Kelly's Island, Huron County, at Norwalk, Lorain County, Regional Airport, Ottawa County actually has three (3) airports that are out on the islands, Richland County, at Mansfield, Sandusky County, at Fremont, Seneca County, Fostoria, and Tiffin. Commissioner Bauer stated now the only airport that stands in the way of a regional airport at or about NASA is the Huron County Airport. Mr. Gubry stated that he didn't say that he could quite say that. Mr. Gubry stated that he would refer to Mr. Jackson on that one. Mr. Jackson stated yes that is the way he sees it. Commissioner Bauer stated that his next question to Mr. Jackson is, is there any exceptions that will allow the Huron County Airport to continue to operate and a regional airport put on or about NASA.? Mr. Gubry stated that he would have to have the study done more but there doesn't appear to be but that he would never say never. Commissioner Fegley explained that there needs to be a little conversation about the Huron County Airport itself. Stated that we just finished a master plan this past year went through that, spent \$187,000.00 for the consulting work that was done, and ended up with five (5) different possible options for Huron County Airport, the last eighteen (18) months we have been negotiating on purchasing additional property so that we can extend the runway to 5,000 feet and just completed those negotiations and that is underway now. Obviously we were pursuing all of this without being involved in any of this other conversation. That is something that we have in place, as part of our twenty (20) year plan that says we want to be able to land small jets. The other significant point that we have that kind of lies in the face of a good decision here is the fact that this airport out here gains us close to \$500,000 per year in economic benefit, and what happens if we close this airport and what is the time frame that you have for this NASA airport and the process that we would go through if we did close Huron

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County Airport. The other issue that we talked about is, and you folks from FAA have told us any sale of that property would not come to Huron County. Mr. Fegley asked if that was correct, that we would have to pay back all past FAA grants that we received. Mr. Gubry stated that one (1) in the study Erie County would have a wide range of alternatives, and stated that it would be premature to say that is going to be the site of the new airport, and these questions that have been raised would be addressed in the next study that Erie County would do, in terms of how much economic development would emerge and flow back to which county and what areas would prosper from the airport. It would also talk about what would happen should the decision be made that you would close your airport, like it has been said this is a local decision to be made. Typically all the proceeds from the sale of your airport, if everyone agreed, and it was found to be environmentally acceptable would go into the new airport. That is something that needs to be studied and answers to be provided to those questions, but still feels it is a little premature to say we are closing an airport and opening a new airport, and this is the beginning of a very long study in process before you actually get a new airport. Rick Brown, Huron County Airport Board, asked about what happens to the funds if the airport is sold, how do we repay grants, what kind of economic impact will it have for Norwalk, and Huron County, we don't have any answers to that and those of the kinds of questions we are going to have answered before making any decision. Commissioner Bill Monaghan stated that if Huron County is doing \$500,000 per year now, we are talking about the region effect, you need to forget about counties, this is the region, you can probably go tenfold. The feasibility showed that you are going to have probably somewhere in the area of thirty (30) million dollars worth of economic development that would come into this area. It was stated that where the proposed airport could be, and where Huron County Airport is, is only about ten (10) miles and if fact from the Huron County line it is only about four (4) miles. You can't draw lines saying this is Huron County this is Erie County, it will be a regional airport. Also spoke to the regional airport with Ottawa and how well that is working out for them. Commissioner McKeen asked that the question in regards to paying FAA grants back be answered. Mr. Gubry stated that what happens is, is that assuming that all the counties agreed to this, and some sort of regional airport was formed between the two (2) counties Huron County would still have grant obligations to maintain the existing airport until the new airport opens and then you would transfer all your grant obligations as such liabilities whatever over to the new airport, and then you would proceed with the disposing of the old airport and all of those proceeds would go into the new airport. Commissioner Adelman stated that he feels this is a point that needs to be repeated, and from the standpoint if this proceeded to the point that the Huron County Airport would be closed and you said that the assets of the property as they are sold off, those proceeds would go to the regional airport, that Huron County would be a part of. Commissioner Adelman stated so in other words it would be Huron County property that Huron County would not get the proceeds from sale of its property, it would go to the regional airport is that correct? Mr. Gubry stated typically that is how it works. Mr. Gubry stated that depending on what the grant obligations say apply to how those proceeds are to be disposed of. Commissioner Adelman stated that from what you have indicated that again if this were a proposal that would proceed and the npias qualification goes over to the regional airport, Huron County is still obligated to operate the Huron County Airport until the new facility would be completed, and that could be a few years down the road, but we would still be under an obligation to operate that airport although we would not receive any funding from the FFA to assist in that operation. Mr. Gubry stated that Huron County would still receive funding, there is no reason for not receiving funding. Stephanie Swann, made a couple of clarification, one (1) FAA is not in the business of closing airports, there would be a transfer of location for the operation, Huron County has a sponsor and at some point if there were to be a new airport the one thing that has to be established first and foremost is the sponsor, once the sponsor is defined there will be a point where the economic development will go. Commissioner Adelman said point well taking, but if we were relocated we would still be under the obligation to operate the current facility until that relocated airport is complete. Ms. Swann stated that is correct. Mr. Gubry stated that Huron County would still received the normal grants to operate, nothing extra until the time the transfer takes place. Commissioner Bauer stated that if the relocation takes place the sale of the current Huron County Airport land which is owned by the Huron County Commissioners would be done by the new regional airport. It was stated that has not been determined as of yet. This is something that will need to go in the study, and stated that it needs to be emphasized that they are still in the very preliminary study standpoint, we need to have this discussion to move the study forward, this isn't the type of discussion to say at the end of the meeting, we are closing your airport and we are building a new one. General Stringer stated that there a couple of things he would like to explain in regards to NASA and a regional airport and the benefits to both. Question was asked what of the above airports could accommodate NASA's needs. General Stringer, Director Plum Brook Management Office, NASA Glenn Research Center spoke at this time and explained why NASA needs a runway. General Stringer stated that they will be bringing satellites and do not want to take them over the roads, to be tested. The people that own satellites want them to direct delivery. General Stringer also discussed charter traffic that also could

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happen, and feels that cooperation could be accomplished and this runway would also work for cargo traffic. Spoke to Port Authorities. Runway down by 2011 would be able to compete for the testing tape. Deb Lake Wagner asked FAA how many years it takes to complete the 6 studies that need to be done. FAA answered that it depends and how long it takes the counties to agree on a regional airport. The study consultant did answer around fifty-five (55) months which is the best case scenario. Commissioner Fegley stated to continue the conversation, he feels it is the revenue sharing part that Huron County is worried about. Stated that he heard the numbers that Mr. Jackson discussed of \$56 million and knows that it is more than that now, and the local match is something like twelve (12) million dollars and all he has heard at this time is the sale of the Huron County Airport becoming the local match, is what they are telling us. That is where the difficulty comes in for Huron County. All that funding would have to come out of our general fund and Huron County does not have that kind of funds to make this happen. Mr. Gubry stated that he would hope that the next study that will be done will address the local match the total cost and the benefit of the regional airport. This is something needed before a decision can be made. Commissioner Fegley stated that this issue of revenue sharing is something that Huron County is going to have to see. Carl Essex, Huron County Engineer's Office spoke to the economic impact on the region. Commissioner Fegley stated that this goes back to the question he asked earlier, can NASA build their runway without FAA approval, on their own. This is something that will need to be worked out. Commissioner Adelman stated that the next question he had was that we have been discussing here this morning, first of all we have looked over the Regional Airport feasibility study that was prepared for Erie County Commissioners now what you have been taking about is a next step. What would have to take place before this next study can take place. Mr. Jackson stated that the first this is that a determination needs to be done. We have finished the first step and ready for the next study. Commissioner Adelman asked what has to happen before it is determined to go to the next study. Mr. Jackson stated that is the draft which needs to be submitted to the FAA and they will review it and then they will give the determination, and the study is basically asking, could the Erie County Regional Airport come into the NPIAS based on that study. Once this question is answered then they will start looking at different locations. Commissioner Bauer asked what is the drop dead date for an agreement between Erie and Huron counties. The next phase will be to start looking at different opportunities, assuming that Erie County does not get their own NPIAS site, which he believes is the conclusion everyone is leaning towards, then it would be up to Erie County to decide what the next step is, and put the proposal to the FAA. The FAA does not have a drop dead date in mind. Commissioner Bauer stated that first the FAA would make their determination of this study, then you would go to a second study. Commissioner Bauer stated that they had had the chance to meet with Lorain County Commissioners and they felt that Lorain County could lose a great deal of traffic at their airport if this airport was opened, does the FAA look at that type of thing. Mr. Gubry stated that is something that the study should look at, which is the impact statement. Further discussion was had in regards to proceeds. Commissioner Adelman stated that in regards to the Huron County Airport, we feel that we have a facility that has value to our county and a lot of benefit and somewhere it gets back that the idea of a regional airport should be a no brainer and should jump right into it, but we have an airport that runs very well under a good airport authority, operates in the black and has done a lot of good things and continues to move forward, some of the things that the general public doesn't see. Asked for comments from the member of the FAA here, and how the view the performance of the Huron County Airport and how it operates. Ms. Swann stated that as Huron County's program manager you have a viable airport to the FAA it is a public use federally obligated airport, that in the last couple of years is nearing completion of an airport master plan, it is a very good product. Which has a pretty solid direction in which it is moving in. FAA has no major issues or concerns with the Huron County Airport and are actually doing a pretty good job. Mr. Gubry stated this is strictly a local decision FAA does not say we are closing down your airport or transferring your airport or anything else. Tom Griffing, Owner Operator, Griffing's Flying Service stated that the question he had which is to be addressed to the FAA is airport activity in any way brought into the nipius. Most of the existing have very little activity. Huron County is a very nice facility but is very under utilized, it just appears that nothing is taken into consideration as to where the traffic is actually at. Commissioner Bauer asked Alex MacNicol, Director, Erie County Regional Planning Department to speak in regards to what this will do for the economic benefit. Mr. MacNicol referred to Huntsville and the economic effect NASA has had in that town. Commissioner Fegley stated that after looking at the study, one question that he had has to do with the revenue at \$30 million dollars over ten years, and finds that to be way low compared to what he would anticipate something like this, and stated that he thinks that number needs to be improved. If they would have said 100 million he would have believed that, but 30 million just isn't there, we might just as well keep our own airport that we have. We need to improve this number and take another look at that, because of the example of what is in Hunstville, which would change the whole dynamics of what we are doing here. This needs to be fixed. Mr. Bauer stated that he had read the report and further stated that looking at the 12 million dollar local match and if

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you go down through the report and add in the administrative costs and the construction management he sees a local match of 15.7 million dollars, then asked where do you see getting this number coming from. Commissioner McKeen stated that we always find a way, and for her the big thing here is a four letter word which is jobs. If you bring up jobs and your unemployment is not wonderful and either is Erie County's. Also stated that she is looking ahead and look at the jobs it is going to bring into this area. Cleveland NASA Glenn knows what we have here, and that is why they are stepping in, to bring jobs into this area of Ohio because we are hurting up here. Need to look at the jobs it is going to bring in, and also stated that they will find that money not concerned about that, but is concerned about bringing us all together so that we can bring some jobs into our area, which includes Huron County. It was also stated that if you can show the people of Erie County, and Huron County that you have a good plan and that you are going to be bringing in economic development and bringing good jobs, not low paying jobs, and if you can show that you are going to put on a ¼ percent sales tax to pay for this airport and this is what it is going to do for you. Obviously you are not going to get something for nothing. You have to have a good plan to show the people what is being brought to the table. The educational institutes were also discussed as to their role in this plan. The private sector is already anticipating that there is going to be something positive happening here. It is not so much a matter as to whether is will or won't but the question right now what is the ending that everyone can agree on to make this thing happen. There has to be some equitable way to divide the responsibilities and divide up the costs but also then to divide up the amenity. Andy Doll, ODOT aviation asked is there anything wrong with NASA building there own runway and nothing to do with FAA. They basically build their own runway on that facility and then both of the counties having nothing to do with it. It was stated that it was a guess that NASA doesn't have the money to do so and they are going to be using FAA to build that runway at that facility. Ms. Caruso, Greater Cleveland Partnership, stated that it is their job to find other sources of revenue, whether it be Homeland Security, State of Ohio, it will not be NASA dollars. NASA doesn't really need another runway and they don't have a budget for one. Commissioner Monaghan stated that we have to dream a little bit, what is going to happen in the next five years we have an opportunity that is probably not going to come by again. Commissioners Fegley stated that he would like to see FAA decide whether or not they can grant a NPIAS to Erie County. They will do that once the study is given to them. FAA can turn around answer in 30 days. Look for another session in 30 days. General Stringer stated that he was happy to see this type of meeting taking place, and stated that this is America at work.

At 12:10 p.m. regular session recessed.

At 3:00 p.m. regular session resumed. Commissioner Fegley and Commissioner Bauer toured the Courthouse Complex energy project.

At 3:40 p.m. Gary W. Bauer moved to adjourn. Ralph A. Fegley seconded the motion. The meeting stood adjourned.

IN THE MATTER OF OPEN SESSION

The Huron County Commissioners hereby attest that all actions and deliberations of the Board legally required to be public were conducted in an open session on this date and that the foregoing minutes represent the official action of the Board.

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 July 26, 2007.

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 3:40 p.m.

Signatures on file.