

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Office with the following present via GoToMeeting: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Treasurer, Susan Harry; visitor, Dean Fluke and Daily News Reporter Kylie Hawn.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather. Heather Fellman conducted roll call of all call-in participants and discussed policies and procedures for public comment during the meeting. All participants will be muted for the duration of the meeting except during public comment periods. During public comment periods, participants will be unmuted individually to ensure that everyone is heard. Prayer was led by Commissioner Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the December 1st Public Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve the payment of bills.

There was one addition to the agenda: consideration of approval to hire a part-time temporary clerk for the Treasurer's Office. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas reminded the public to take precautions during this pandemic. Wear your masks, wash your hands, social distance. Stay safe and be well. Commissioner Sather commented that as we come up to the Christmas season we have to remember that we're not only protecting ourselves, but our friends and our families as well. Consideration is needed.

Under public comments, Kylie Hawn asked whether the Commissioners would be releasing the names of businesses and amounts of funding received under the CARES Act. Commissioner Sather commented that that is public information that can be provided during public meetings, with calls to the office, or in person by appointment. Solicitor McManamon commented that that should be evaluated to make sure there is nothing in the CARES Act that limits the availability of this information. Treasurer Susan Harry commented that Huntingdon County dog owners should be receiving a mailer reminding them to renew their dog licenses for 2021. The Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of dog law, sends our office dog tags and certificates and then we sort them out and send them to dog outlets that help us sell them in the area. The Treasurer's Office has received the dog tags, however there has been an issue with the printing of the certificates that come with it. Our office has been improvising and we are continuing to sell the dog licenses for 2021 here but because of this issue there has been a delay in delivery to the dog license outlets. Residents can call the Treasurer's Office to make an appointment at (814)643-3523, or mail the application along with check to our office and we can mail it back to them, or they can use the drop box in the rear of the Bailey Building. Tentatively, I am hoping to have the certificates in the office and delivered to the outlets by January 1st but I have no definite way of knowing. I am asking for patience and in the meantime the public still has other ways of getting their dog license for 2021.

Under items to be addressed by the solicitor, the 2021 TAN bids were opened. 7 bids were received for \$1.75 million. Kish Bank submitted a bid with an interest rate of 1.25%. F&M Trust submitted a bid with an interest rate of .45%. Community State Bank submitted a .96% interest rate. First National Bank submitted a .9717% interest rate. CBT submitted a 1.85% interest rate. MCS Bank submitted a .49% interest rate. Juniata Valley Bank submitted a 1.21% interest rate. A motion was made to accept the bid from F&M Trust pending solicitor review. Commissioner Thomas commented that Solicitor McManamon can review the bid and make sure that it is compliant with our requirements. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Under new business, consideration of approval was given for the fifth amendment to the food services contract for the Huntingdon County Jail between the Department of Corrections and Huntingdon County. This amendment extends to the terms of the agreement for one year through December 31, 2021. Commissioner Thomas commented that he is quite proud of this agreement. This agreement provides meals for inmates at the rate of \$2 per meal. This is a savings of \$280,000 per year. Since this agreement was put into place five years ago, the county has saved \$1,120,000. He offered his thanks to the Department of Corrections for this agreement. Commissioner Walls and Commissioner Sather further commented on the great savings and the great relationship between the County and the Department of Corrections and expressed their hope that this agreement will remain in place for many years to come. Dean Fluke commented that his call was dropped. He asked if there was only one bid on the TAN. Commissioner Sather responded that there were seven. Mr. Fluke asked if the bids were a little higher than last year. Commissioner Sather responded that the amount requested is the same amount that has been requested for the past two years: \$1.75 million. Kylie Hawn asked which SCI provides the meals, Huntingdon or Smithfield? Commissioner Thomas responded that he believes it is Huntingdon although either one can provide. This was a long process. It took over two years to get them to approve that. There's a lot of moving parts. We had to work through the Governor's Office, the Department of Corrections, and with the legislators. It took a while but in the end it really paid off. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to hire Lauren Heane as a part-time temporary clerk effective December 14th through the end of the year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

There were no Matters for Action, Information, and Discussion.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather Fellman, Deputy Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary