

Huntingdon, PA  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024  
9:30 a.m.

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Meeting Room.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Walls. Prayer was led by Commissioner Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Reeder, yes) to table approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

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

There was one addition to the agenda: Work Change Directive #3. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Reeder, yes).

Under announcements, Commissioner Walls asked Chief Clerk Heather Fellman to share her prepared statement regarding the status of the election. Some folks are reading posts on social media by people who do not understand the process, and we wanted to ensure that the public has access to accurate information. Heather Fellman commented, "Ballots were approved for printing on October 11<sup>th</sup> after sufficient testing was completed. Sign-offs were sent to the printer and they began working on preparing our ballots. Ballots were received in our office on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Ballots were inventoried the same day they were received to ensure that every one of the 30,990 ballots that we ordered were present and accounted for. The first mail-in ballots were mailed on the following day, October 16<sup>th</sup>. We have three staff members who are currently dedicating all of their time, up to 15 hours per day, to the management of this election. We have three other staff members who are able to be pulled from their regular duties for a few hours at a time to assist with election-related tasks. In four working days, these six people have been able to mail nearly 4,000 ballots, have fielded hundreds of phone calls and emails and have assisted approximately 100 walk-in early voters. I am immeasurably proud of the dedication, work ethic, and efficiency of our incredible staff, who has been able to accomplish all of this for our county residents, while maintaining the integrity of the mail-in process. I would also like to take this time to commend our Board of Commissioners for their exemplary servant leadership. They have pitched in in any way necessary to ensure that voters in our county are able to exercise their right to vote." Kylie Hawn asked if ballots have to be postmarked by Election Day, or if they have to be received in the Election Office. Heather Fellman responded that it depends on what kind of ballot it is. Regular mail-in and absentee ballots have to be received in our office by 8pm on Election Day. Military and Civilian Overseas ballots must be postmarked by Election Day and received in our office by 5pm on November 12<sup>th</sup>. There is also a special process that is available to military and overseas civilians whereby they can request a digital ballot. Many of our service members from this county have already taken advantage of this option, and we have already received many of their ballots. We have also heard from several voters that are requesting that we mail a ballot to them out of state. We are prioritizing getting those ballots in the mail as quickly as possible. If you are voting from out of state, you do have the option of putting your ballot in an overnight mailer if you are concerned about getting the ballot back to us before the deadline. All of the ballots for out of state voters that we have received requests for as of the time of this meeting have been mailed out already. They should receive them in time to return them to our office before the deadline.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor. No bids were received for the EMA vehicle.

Under new business, Jeff Hackenberg from the Penn State Extension presented a report on the Master Gardeners Program.

Brad Glover, Warden, requested consideration of approval to hire Nathan Renninger for the position of full-time Corrections Officer effective November 4, 2024. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

Laurie Nearhood, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for Act 13 Legacy Fund Grant Agreement for Warriors Mark Youth League Baseball. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Reeder, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Penn State Construction Work Change Directive #3. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

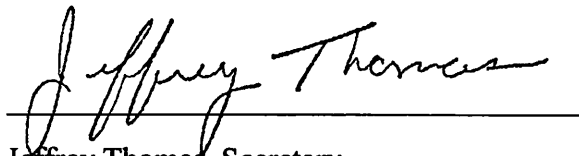
There were no Matters for Action.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Reeder to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jeffrey Thomas", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary