

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

1-2020

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioners Meeting Room with the following present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Veterans Affairs Director, Brian Bassett; EMA Director, Joe Thompson; Probation Director, Len Hahn; Warden, Duane Black; Deputy Warden, Brad Glover; Planning Intern, Stan Willis; Deputy Treasurer, Cathy Bilger; Victim Witness Coordinator, Allison Hall and News Reporter, Kylie Hawn.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather, followed in prayer led by Commissioner Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag 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 31 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 were no additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Thomas announced that he is looking forward to the coming year working with his fellow commissioners, as well as other department heads and employees, to do good things for the County.

There were no public comments.

Under matters to be addressed by the solicitor, Peter McManamon noted that he has paperwork for the Commissioners to sign to close on the TAN.

Under new business, Brian Bassett, Veteran's Affairs Director, requested consideration of approval to attend training at the Veteran's Affairs Western District Field Office in Pittsburgh on January 27<sup>th</sup>. The expense to the County will include use of a county vehicle and gas reimbursement. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Joe Thompson, EMA Director, requested consideration of approval for a Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant Extension Project. The Hazardous Material Emergency Planning Grants provide significant funding for training for local fire fighters. In 2019 approximately 450 people in the county completed training provided through this grant. This extension grant would be used to fund a county-wide highway tabletop exercise tentatively to be held in May or June. These grants are awarded on an 80/20 match. LEPC will pay the 20% match that the County would be responsible for. Commissioner Walls commented that Mr. Thompson and the volunteers invest a lot of time in these trainings and thanked them for their efforts. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls, and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Duane Black, Warden, requested consideration of approval for a maintenance services agreement with FIT Optimized Solutions for maintenance of the Jail's boiler and heating system. This is a one year contract renewal. Total expense to the County is \$1,940. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Len Hahn, Probation Director, requested consideration of approval to hire Caleb Smith effective January 6, 2020 to fill a vacant Adult Probation Officer position. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Len Hahn requested consideration of approval to hire Benjamin Foose to the position of Adult Probation Officer effective January 6, 2019. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Len Hahn requested consideration of approval for an owner county agreement with Central Counties Youth Center. This is a detention center for underage offenders that is jointly owned between five counties (Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, Clearfield, and Clinton). This agreement is a renewal. The cost is variable based on five year average use. For 2020, the total cost is \$177,762 which can be paid in four installments of \$44,440.50. Commissioner Thomas commented that this goes to show how costs are increasing. This contract has increased by \$100,000 since he became Commissioner eight years ago. He further commented that this is a needed service and that it is good that the County has access to it. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Len Hahn presented statistics on the new Pre-Trial Services Division. There are currently 162 offenders being served through the Pre-Trial Services Division. There have been 291 assessments completed to date.

Allison Hall, Victim Witness Coordinator, requested consideration of approval for a SAVIN maintenance and service agreement with the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Institute. This is an automated notification system for victims and other concerned parties. This agreement is a renewal of an existing agreement for January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. There is no financial responsibility to the County. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to hire Kellie Benson for the position of County Grant Writer and Recycling Coordinator effective January 6, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Peter McManamon as the Solicitor for the Board of Commissioners.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Peter McManamon as the Solicitor for Children and Youth.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Heather Fellman as the Chief Clerk for the Board of Commissioners.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Melissa Bousum as the Chief Tax Assessor for Huntingdon County.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Joseph Thompson as the Emergency Management Director for Huntingdon County.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Brian Bassett as the Veteran's Affairs Director for Huntingdon County.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Susan Harry as the Tax Claim Director for Huntingdon County.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Fred Gutshall as Chief Public Defender for Huntingdon County.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint First National Bank as the Depository for the General Fund.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Community State Bank as the Depository for the Liquid Fuels Account.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Mark Sather to the Central Counties Youth Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the Shirley Home Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the Southern Alleghenies Rural Transportation Coordinating Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the RC&D Counsel.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Scott Walls to the Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services Executive Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Mark Sather to the Library Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Scott Walls to the Local Emergency Planning Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the Skills Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Scott Walls to the Co-Op Extension Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the Economic Infrastructure Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Mark Sather to the Visitor's Bureau Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Mark Sather to the Chamber of Commerce Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Jeff Thomas to the PA Counties Health Insurance Program Board and to appoint Scott Walls as an alternate.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to appoint Mark Sather to the Huntingdon County Business and Industry Executive Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to appoint Mark Sather, Scott Walls, and Jeff Thomas to the following boards: Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services (JVBDS) Board, the Area Agency on Aging Board, 911 Policy Board, 911 Regional Board, Salary Board, Prison Board, Retirement Board, Election Board, Records Improvement Committee, Assessment Appeals Board, Tri County Solid Waste Agency, Huntingdon County Business and Industry Board, Partners for Economic Progress, and the Criminal Justice Advisory Board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Scott Walls to the Court Security Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to adopt the Rules of Procedure for the public meetings with no change.

Consideration of approval was given for the District Attorney to attend the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Association Mid-Winter Meeting. 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 10:23 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary