

The regular weekly meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioners meeting room with the following being present: Commissioners O’Korn, Fluke and Thomas; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Chief Clerk, Michelle Ceretti; Planning Director, Mark Colussy; Probation Director, Len Hahn; Assistant District Attorney, Andrew Carson; Warden, Duane Black; Center for Community Action Director, Wendy Melius; Daily news reporter Claire Williams; and visitors Mike Hannon, Valerie Burnett, Denson Groendendaal, Ilona Ballreich, and Bruce Pergament.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner O’Korn followed by prayer led by Commissioner Fluke and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the March 31st public meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the payment of bills.

There were no additions to the agenda, items addressed by the Solicitor or announcements today.

Valerie Burnett provided public comment regarding the upcoming renovations to Rt. 26 in McAlevy’s Fort. She asked the Commissioners to consider supporting calming methods through the area to reduce speed. Denson Groenendaal expressed his concerns as well. He has met with Penn DOT and expressed his concerns to them as well. He is concerned about the safety of the citizens in the area and asked for support of his concerns.

Wendy Melius, CCA Director requested approval of a revision to the 2013 PHARE grant. The grant was originally to be used for the renovations of apartments on the second and third floors of their building. The Borough has denied the zoning change, therefore PHFA suggested finding another project to use the money for. Wendy would like to use the money for housing relocation & stability services, homeless prevention and management of the homeless management information system. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, no) to approve the revision to the PHARE grant as requested.

Assistant DA Andrew Carson requested permission to apply for the VOJO Grant to assist with the cost of the Victim Witness position. The grant amount was increased 35% over last year and is for a total of \$10,500.00 this year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the VOJO Grant application as requested.

Warden, Duane Black was present today to inform the Board that the Jail received 100% compliance on their recent inspection. This is the 5th consecutive inspection that was 100% compliant. He stated that they review the policies and procedures of the Jail as well as the physical facility. The Board congratulated him and his staff for their hard work and dedication.

Probation Director, Len Hahn was present to request permission to apply for a grant through PCCD to implement an Intermediate Punishment Program in Huntingdon County. He stated that Huntingdon is one of the few counties within the State that does not have an IPP program and the ones who do use it have been very successful. The maximum amount of the grant is \$90,000.00 and will be for Fiscal years 2015/2016. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the grant application as requested. It was noted that if the grant is approved, additional action will be required to implement the program.

Planning Director, Mark Colussy requested permission to prepare a request for proposal for the architectural work to renovate the first floor courthouse restrooms to make them ADA compliant. He stated that this is necessary to finalize the occupancy permit for the Courthouse due to the recent renovations. Mark stated that the architectural cost will be covered by the PCORP loss prevention grant, which has been approved. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the RFP process as requested.

Michelle provided a proposal from Morefield to upgrade the voice mail system in the County offices. The current system is at capacity and additional offices are requesting voice mail. Commissioner Thomas also noted that the current system is at end of life and this will be an upgrade to the entire system. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to table this item until next week for further review.

Solicitor McManamon provided Conflict Counsel contracts for consideration. He stated the contracts are the same Attorneys and the same cost as was approved last year. Each agreement would be for \$20,000.00 and each attorney would cover 50 conflict cases. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the Conflict Counsel contract with Attorney Lance Marshall for a period of April 1st, 2015 through March 31st, 2016 as presented. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the Conflict Counsel contract with Attorney Chris Wencker for a period of April 1st, 2015 through March 31st, 2016. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes;

Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the Conflict Counsel with Attorney Lawrence Newton for a period of April 1st, 2015 through March 31st, 2016.

Connie Brode, Area Agency on Aging Executive Director provided a letter requesting appointment of several members of the Citizens Advisory Board. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to appoint Imogene Blatt, Margaret Foster, Mary Gates, and Sarah Locke to the Citizens Advisory Board for a period of one year. It was noted that action was taken last week to appoint Nancy MacNamara to the Citizens Advisory Board for a period of one year as well.

Solicitor McManamon noted for the minutes that he will file a petition with the Courts for the appointment of a replacement Election Board for the 2015 Primary Election.

There were no veteran burial allowances for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary