

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Meeting Room with the following present: Commissioners Walls, Thomas, and Reeder; Deputy Chief Clerk, Stacie Cutshall; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Public Defender, Fred Gutshall; Planning Director, Laurie Nearhood; and Daily News Reporter, Joe Thompson.

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

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

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

There was one (1) addition to the agenda. Commissioner Walls stated to add the approval of the 2025 TAN, it was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to add to agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas wanted to wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year, Commissioner Reeder also commented Happy New Year and Commissioner Walls added that the Board achieved a lot in the past year with a full year coming up and thanked the Board working together and looking forward to another good year.

Under new business, Commissioner Walls on behalf of CES Engineering with 3 items of consideration of approval. First Consideration of Approval for work change directive No 2 to relocate water line, with K & K Plumbing. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes). Second Consideration of Approval for work change order No. 4 with K & K Plumbing to replace and cap old cast plumbing in basement of Courthouse. Cost is \$3123.73. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes). Third and final item, Consideration of Approval for work change directive No. 4 with Penn State Construction, LLC for excavation (mini-hoe) for relocating water line to below frost line and stone bedding for water line, estimated cost \$1000.00. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Commissioner Walls on behalf of Sheriff, Jeff Leonard, for Consideration of Approval to promote Dave Funk from part-time to full-time Deputy Sheriff with an effective date of 12/30/2024 It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Fred Gutshall, Public Defender, for Consideration of Approval of four (4) 2025 Conflict Counsel Contracts. First contract is with Timothy Burns for up to 100 cases/year for \$40,000. Second contract is with Lance Marshall for up to 50 cases/year for \$25,000.00. Third contract is with BMZ Law for up to 75 cases/year for \$40,000.00. Fourth and final contract is with Decker/Bradburn for up to 50 cases/year for \$30,000.00 It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes). Commissioner Thomas and Fred Gutshall both commented on the savings to the County in having this program with Conflict Counsel Contracts. In addition Fred Gutshall also wanted to share his gratitude to the Board for supporting his office.

Laurie Nearhood, Planning Director, for Consideration of Approval for FY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Recommendations. The Planning Commission recommendations for consideration and adoption are as follows-Safety: first item is SR 1009 and SR 4007 intersection Improvement (Cold Springs Road & Petersburg Pike) in Oneida Township, second item is Route 45 and Route 350 Intersection Improvement (Warriors Mark Path & Spruce Creek Road) in Franklin Township. Bridge: first item is Globe Run Road (T-520) over Globe Run in West Township, second is Harmony Church Road (T-392) over Little Trough Creek in Union Township. Commissioner Thomas commented that he wanted to make sure that the 5% match commitment was in place for the projects and funding approval. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Commissioner Walls, Consideration of Approval for 2025 Huntingdon County Budget. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Commissioner Walls, Consideration of Approval to Adopt 2025 Tax Rate #2024-2 to raise the tax rate from 21 to 22 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation. The one (1) mill increase is allocated as follows: 0.42 for debt service and 0.58 for general purposes ($0.42 + 0.58 = 1.0$). Commissioner Thomas commented on the Court House renovations that have not been done for 15 plus years and are in dire need of heating, air-conditioning, and safety issues that make up almost half of the increase. Commissioner Walls added that once that debt for renovation is satisfied the special mill (0.42) goes away. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

Commissioner Walls, Consideration of Approval of Resignation of Kevin Barger, VA Director with an effective date of 1/31/2025. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Commissioner Walls, Consideration of Approval of 2025 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) Resolution #9-2024. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

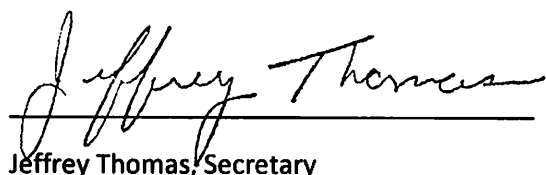
There were no Matters for Action.

There were four (4) Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Stacie D. Cutshall, Deputy Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary