

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

27-2019

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 present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; CYS Fiscal Supervisor, Claudia Conrad; CYS Fiscal Tech, Chris Riling; Coroner, Paul Sharum; Deputy Court Administrator, Stephanie Smith; Planning Intern, Stan Willis; Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitors Jim Cassatt, Mike Hannon, Greg Stein, Rachel Stein, and Kate Stein.

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 by Scout Members Rachel and Kate Stein.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, abstain) to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2019 Public Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Sather, 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 Sather announced that Courtroom 1 is closed until further notice for professional air quality tests and cleaning as there were recent reports about concerns of mold in the courtroom.

During the public comment period, Jim Cassatt asked when the 2018 County audit would be available. Commissioner Sather responded that it is usually completed in July.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, asked for consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Raystown Developmental Services, Inc. This organization provides family preservation and reunification services, supervised visits, as well as other services. This is for contract year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, asked for consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Fulton County Family Partnership. This organization provides daycare services for children in foster care as well as supervised visits. This is for contract year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, asked for consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Terry O'Hara to provide bonding assessments for children in foster care. This is for contract year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, asked for consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with The Children's Aid Society of Franklin County. This organization provides residential and foster care services as well as diagnostic assessments. This is for contract year July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. It is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Paul Sharum, Coroner, requested consideration of approval to attend the Coroner's Association Annual Conference. This will cost \$850 for registration and \$800 for accommodations. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Mike Hannon from Tri-County Drug and Alcohol provided an update on the methamphetamine concerns for the local community, the state, and the nation. Tri-County Drug and Alcohol operates in Huntingdon, Juniata, and Mifflin Counties. Mr. Hannon described what methamphetamine looks like, how it is used, and what effects it has on the body. He noted that opiate addiction currently gets the most attention and funding. He expressed that he does not want to lose focus on that problem, but he would like to see funding streams change so that they are not directed just at Opiate Use Disorder but rather Substance Use Disorder more broadly. He has asked the Commissioners to carry this message to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. Currently he is beginning to see an increase in the use of methamphetamine and he noted that these changes in drug trends follow cycles with shifts typically occurring every seven to ten years. Mr. Hannon further noted that prevention and teaching our children needs to be a top priority. Jim Cassatt asked why we don't use the newspaper more than we do. He would like to know why we do not publicize who is taken in on drug charges and why there is no legal action like the cancer lobby raised with Roundup. Mr. Hannon noted that there are lawsuits. Commissioners Thomas and Sather noted that the county is presently involved with a class action lawsuit against opiate manufacturers. Mr. Hannon further commented that anything can be abused and that there has to be some personal responsibility involved too. Jim Cassatt responded that we never see the monetary return on investment into these programs. Mr. Hannon noted that this is not an issue where you can only be concerned about the dollars spent. The quality of life is the important factor to evaluate in this case. For prevention and treatment information, members of the public can call Tri-County Drug and Alcohol at 717-242-1446.

Under Matters for Action and Information, Commissioner Thomas announced that 27,466 pounds of recyclables had been collected at Electronics Recycling Day.

There were 2 Veteran's Burial Allowances.

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

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary