

Huntingdon, PA
Tuesday, October 13, 2009
40-09

The regular weekly meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date in the Commissioners Meeting Room with the following being present: Commissioners Fluke, Hoover and Kough Pittenger; County Solicitor, Scot Gill; Chief Clerk, Cinnamon Bair; Richard Buck and Cheryl Smith, US Census; Richard Stahl, Planning Director; George Germann, The Daily News; Jeff Gill, Altoona Mirror; and visitors Pete Ludwig, Zach Gordon, and Charlie Coleman.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Fluke followed by Prayer led by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Hoover.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the minutes of the October 6 meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve payment of invoices for the week of October 12.

There were no additions to today's meeting.

There was no public comment.

Solicitor, Scot Gill addressed the Board for two issues. Scot will get the bid material ready to send out to advertisement for the Jail Food Service contract. He will forward it to Cinnamon. Secondly, a loan to cover the County until State money comes in. This would need to be passed by ordinance. Unlike the annual TRAN (tax revenue anticipation note) which the County gets each year, that must be paid back by the end of the same year. Scot must advertise that a meeting will be held to enact the ordinance. The Board of Commissioners must seek approval from the Judge in order to proceed. The hearing is scheduled for Monday October 19, 2009 at 1:00 pm. Commissioner Hoover questioned Scot about the procedure if it could be held later in the month. Scot said yes, but paperwork needs to be sent to DCED for approval and other advertising is required. If the money is needed by the end of the month this all has to fit in to get the money. Commissioner Kough Pittenger asked if the state passed the budget and if the county does see money coming in before the end of the month and the Board feels it is not necessary to get the loan what will happen. Scot said the way it is written it is like a line of credit. (No money is spent and we do not use it.) But, for the loan to qualify as a tax free loan you are required to draw down \$50,000 and pay it back with interest. Commissioner Fluke said they were looking at the expenditures from the departments are not over, if we get the money from the state we will be ok. It's not the county's fault.

Richard Buck and Cheryl Smith from the US Census, Richard addressed the Commissioners saying the 2010 census is the 23rd census counting 310, 000,000 people compared to 3,000,000 the first census in 1790. Richard Buck asked the Commissioners to sign a Partnership Agreement with the Census Bureau to work together and publicly support the census process. Richard gave several ways for the County promote the census. Richard explained several ways the numbers from the census helps the County with federal funding. He also gave the Board statistics for Huntingdon County. The last census Huntingdon had only 63% return and how it may have affected funding in the county. Commissioner Fluke questioned how they can be sure people are only counted once. Richard explained the process. Cheryl is the local census employee that may be the contact person for the County. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to participate in the partnership agreement.

Richard Stahl was scheduled next on the agenda. Richard asked the Commissioners to make a motion to have the Chairman sign the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) contract when the contract is received by the County from DCED in the next day or two. The contract is in the amount of \$301,000. The Commissioners had previously approved the application for the grant. Commissioner Hoover asked if any money would come from the general fund. Richard answered no. Richard said there are regulations they must follow to use the grant to help specific areas in need. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover and seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the Neighborhood Stabilization Program contract in the amount of \$301,000.

Richard asked the Board to approve Maureen Safko to attend two day required training for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve Maureen's attendance. Travel and lodging costs will be paid by CDBG funds. There is no cost for registration.

The Commissioners approved payment for 2 Veteran burial allowances, 0 widow/widower burial and 1 base.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger second by Commissioner Hoover and carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Minutes prepared by Chief Clerk Cinnamon L. Bair.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Kough Pittenger, Secretary