

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; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Ed Zack from Susquehanna Accounting; 911 Director, Chris Stevens and Reporter for the Daily News, Joe Thompson.

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

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 were no additions to the agenda.

There were no announcements.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Under new business, Chris Stevens, 911 Director, requested consideration of approval for the PEMA 911 Grant. The grant amount is \$1,701,282.60. The majority of these funds will be used to cover enhancements to the radio system. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Reeder, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to lift the burn ban effective today at 9:45am. Residents are still urged to use caution. This action is supported by the State District Forester. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Reeder and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes).

Consideration of approval was given to display the proposed 2025 budget for 20 days before taking action on December 31st. The total budget for 2025 is \$28.1 million. This is an increase of about \$2 million from last year. This increase is due to the \$1.5 million left of the Courthouse project and increased costs for CYS. There will be a new debt service added to pay for the Courthouse project in the amount of .42 mils. Some counties this year are getting a 30-40% tax increase with inflation and getting behind on county finances. To avoid this, we are recommending a .58 mil increase to keep up with inflation. The Commissioners did go line by line and try to cut expenses where possible to keep spending down. They also decided not to fill two positions. There was only about an \$11,000 increase in general operating expenses for the General Fund. The Commissioners have not budgeted a contribution to the Capital Reserve Fund this year and we reduced the contingency budget by about \$100,000. Commissioner Thomas noted that the millage for the debt service will go away once the debt is paid off. Commissioner Thomas thanked Susquehanna for the work they do for the County. Commissioner Reeder noted that this tax increase will be approximately \$20 for the average homeowner. We tried to keep that as low as possible. It was moved by Commissioner Reeder, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Reeder, yes; Walls, yes).

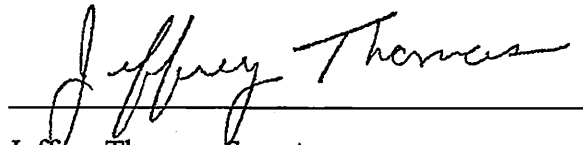
There were no Matters for Action.

There were 2 Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey Thomas". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary