

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; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Emily Davis, Dairy Princess; Savannah Zanic, Dairy Princess Elect; Lew Davey and Lee Hopkins, First National Bank Mifflintown; Jennifer Caron, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC; Dan Zakraysek; Cambria Allegheny Regional Highway Safety Network; President Judge, George Zanic; Daily news reporter Claire Williams; and visitor Bruce Pergament.

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

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 May 5th 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, matters addressed by the Solicitor or public comments today.

Commissioner O’Korn announced that the Electronics Recycling event will be held Saturday, May 16th at the Fairgrounds. He also reminded everyone there will be no meeting on May 19th due to the election.

Dairy Princess Emily Davis was present today to talk about her experience as the current Dairy Princess. Emily has lived on her farm her entire life and has been involved in the Dairy Princess program since the age of 5. She has been honored to serve as the County Dairy Princess for the last year. Dairy Princess Elect Savannah Zanic was present as well to discuss her upcoming plans as Dairy Princess as of June 1st, 2015. Savannah has worked in the Dairy industry for the past two years and is very excited to promote the industry. She will be participating in the upcoming Memorial Day parade, fill a glass with hope campaign, and the refill with milk campaign.

Jennifer Caron, Lew Davey and Lee Hopkins were present today to present documents for consideration to modify the existing 2007 General Loan obligation note. The modification would reduce the interest rate from 4.89% to 2.35% fixed rate until April 17, 2025. The reset rate is also being amended to be adjustable every ten years beginning April 17, 2025. Lew Davey stated that the interest rate change has been retro- active back to April 17, 2015 therefore the recent payment made will reflect the new interest rate. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to adopt resolution 10-2015 as presented. Commissioner Fluke expressed concerns about expenditures that were made from the original loan. He asked if the loan should have been used for renovations at the Courthouse. Lee Hopkins stated the description of the fund usage was broad in the original loan and how the money was spent was up to the Board of Commissioners. Jennifer Caron reviewed the original loan documents and stated Courthouse renovations were included and stated that it was up to the Commissioners how to spend the money. Commissioner’s O’Korn and Thomas expressed concern with Commissioner Fluke’s accusations and asked him to clarify his concerns. Commissioner Fluke feels the money should have been spent on the Bailey building, not the Courthouse. He also stated the entire \$4 million was not necessary. Commissioner O’Korn issued a statement regarding the loan modification. He stated the original plan was to purchase and remodel the Bailey building for an estimated \$2.1 million. The County borrowed \$4 million with the intention of using the additional funds to remodel the Courthouse. Due to numerous change orders and unexpected requirements, the final cost of the Bailey building was in excess of \$4 million. There was \$380,000.00 in CDBG funds used to install the elevator. He finished by stating that by doing this loan modification and keeping the existing payment will reduce the term of the loan by 12 years and save about \$2.6 million in interest and payments. He thanked FNB for the help with the loan modification and for improving the financial condition of the County. Commissioner Fluke finished by stating he doesn’t feel the County paid too much for the Bailey building and the purchase was bargain for the County.

Dan Zakraysek, Cambria Allegheny Regional Highway Safety Network was present today to request a letter of support for several programs operated in the County. The Network works with law enforcement agencies and school districts to provide information to youth drivers as well as several other driver safety programs through the County. The programs they operate have been in place for 40 years and are 100% grant funded. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the letter of support for the Network as requested.

There were no veteran burial allowances for approval today.

Prior to adjourning the meeting, the final loan modification documents were signed by the Board of Commissioners. There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary