

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, October 1, 2019

36-2019

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; Celina Seftas from the Conservation District; Bob Henry from Juniata Valley Behavior and Development; Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech; Claudia Conrad, CYS Fiscal Supervisor; Len Hahn, Probation Director; George Zanic, President Judge; News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitor, Jim Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather, followed in prayer led by Commissioner Sather and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Commissioner Walls.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 Public Meeting.

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

Commissioner Sather added a personnel announcement to the agenda for the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Walls announced that the recent recycling collection date had been another successful day.

Under Public Comments, Judge Zanic asked to be added to the salary board meeting to be held later in the day to discuss salary for his law clerk. Commissioner Sather noted that that matter would have to be addressed at the salary board meeting.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Len Hahn requested consideration of approval for the Juvenile Grant in Aid Application for \$50,036. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Celina Seftas of the Huntingdon County Conservation District, requested consideration of approval for Resolution 8-2019 urging reauthorization for the collection of fees to the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fund. It was written into law in 1977. Before that time, mining companies had no responsibility for cleaning up their abandoned mine sites. It was last reauthorized in 2006. The fee on coal extraction will remain at the 1977 rate. This funding helps ongoing cleanup efforts in many areas of Pennsylvania, including Broad Top. There are still public health hazards from the pre-1977 abandoned mine sites that need to be tended to and this funding helps with those projects. Commissioner Thomas noted that it is a very small fee but it makes a big impact. Commissioner Walls asked how the funding is dispersed. Ms. Seftas responded that it is based on an inventory of the abandoned land mines a county has. At the State level, the local agencies would apply for the funding and there is a process for being eligible to apply. Commissioner Sather noted that at least 44 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties are affected

by abandoned coal mines. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Bob Henry from Juniata Valley Behavior and Development requested consideration of approval for the HealthChoices Single Contract Letter of Intent." The Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania (BHARP) was formed in 2006 at the request of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Human Services to allow the 23 counties that form the North Central State Option Zone to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the DHS contract with the Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization for the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Program. This letter of intent will serve to designate BHARP as the primary contractor, on behalf of Huntingdon County, and enter into a contract with a Behavioral Health Managed Care Organization to carry out daily operations. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Bob Henry requested consideration of approval for ordinance 2-2019 to authorize a single primary contract agreement with BHARP. This would establish BHARP as the administrative entity that would oversee a contract with the managed care provider. Currently the Department of Human Services oversees this. Commissioner Walls asked Mr. Henry to explain the benefit of this ordinance. Mr. Henry noted that BHARP would be involved in rate setting and this would give the 23 counties access to 3% reinvestment funds as opposed to the 1% currently available. Commissioner Sather asked if there are also additional resources for the county that would not otherwise be available. Mr. Henry noted that the reinvestment funds will greatly help with county planning and awareness. It would also give significant access to data to determine underserved populations to help better serve the area. Jim Cassatt asked who establishes the fee and how much is being paid to BHARP for administration. Mr. Henry noted that DHS establishes the fee. They set aside a portion of the funding that they receive from the federal government to perform the behavioral health insurance requirements in the state. In 2006/2007, when the state implemented managed care in the central region of the state, all of those counties went into BHARP. The state determines how much money the managed care organization is going to receive for the services that they pay for. The managed care is for individuals with low income or no income and no insurance. It provides them with medical assistance dollars in the form of managed care. There are no county dollars that go to the managed care organization or to BHARP. Jim Cassatt asked if the different counties that are in the agreement change the fee figures. Bob Henry responded that it does not change the numbers. The fees are based on the number of covered lives in each county. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Bob Henry requested consideration of approval for an intergovernmental agreement forming the Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Bethany Christian Services of Central Pennsylvania. Bethany Christian Services provides foster care services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Family Care Services, Inc. Family Care Services provides foster care services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with White Deer Run, Cove Prep. White Deer Run is a secure facility for male sex offenders. This is a renewal from last

year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Commissioner Walls asked if this agreement specified that services were only funded for a certain amount of days and then the County will pay 100%. Claudia Conrad responded that since this is a secure facility it is already not funded. Commissioner Walls asked if the county was responsible for 100% of the funding. Ms. Conrad responded that it is split between state and local if the facility is used. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Keystone Adolescent Center. Keystone provides foster care, transitional living, and residential services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

The Commissioners gave consideration of approval for a request from Treasurer Susan Harry to attend the Tax Claim Bureau Association Fall Conference. The registration fee is \$100 and overnight accommodations are not necessary. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

The Commissioners gave consideration for bids for the fuel oil. One sealed bid was received. It was opened by Solicitor Peter McManamon. Bumgardner and Flasher submitted a bid with two options for payment. The County can pay at a variable rate of 15 cents per gallon above the rack price on the day of delivery or at a fixed rate of \$2.159 per gallon. It was motioned to table a decision until the next public meeting to allow the Commissioners an opportunity to evaluate the bid. Jim Cassatt asked how many gallons of oil the quote is based on. Commissioner Sather replied that they did not list that information in the bid. Jim Cassatt asked if the Commissioners pay for the oil at the Mutual Benefit building. Commissioners Thomas and Sather replied that it was part of the utilities. Commissioner Sather further explained that there is a utility fee for that building that includes all of the utilities. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

The Commissioners received a resignation letter from Ronald Stewart, a corrections officer at the jail. It was moved by Commission Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to accept the resignation of Mr. Stewart effective December 2, 2019.

There were no Matters for Action.

There was one Veteran's Burial Allowance.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary