

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 Sather, Walls and Thomas; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Planning Director, Jim Lettiere; Community Development Administrator, Jennifer Bellis; Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and guests, Joan Rogers and Dorthea Helton.

Sheriff, Jeff Leonard and Katie Unger, EMA Director, participated via GoToMeeting.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

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

There were two additions to the agenda: The first item was consideration of approval to hire an Assistant Election Coordinator. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes). The second item was to hire a Caseworker for CYS. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas asked residents to get their COVID vaccines and boosters and to vaccinate their eligible children. Commissioner Walls commented that petition packets are now available in the Commissioners' Office for those seeking to run for public office this year. Today is the first day to circulate petitions.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business Jeff Leonard, Sheriff, requested consideration of approval to attend the Pennsylvania Sheriff's Association Mid-Winter Conference. The total cost is \$325 and it is budgeted. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Jim Lettiere, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval to release Act 13 funding for the 2023 program year. Applications for funding from municipalities are due April 11th. Final approval will be on April 25th. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Jen Bellis, Community Development Administrator, requested consideration of approval for activity extension requests for four projects. There was a DCED error that incorrectly expired these projects early. These extension requests would be for an end date of March 29, 2024, which was the original end date for all four projects. The projects are the Shade Gap Pump Station #2 Upgrades, Huntingdon Borough Clock Tower Revitalization, Huntingdon Borough 6th Street Parking Lot Rehabilitation, and the Smithfield Township Housing Rehabilitation. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Kelvin Abrashoff, CYS Director, requested consideration of approval for four staff members to attend PCYA training. The total cost is \$475. This is a budgeted and reimbursable expense. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Kelvin Abrashoff requested consideration of approval to fill two vacant Caseworker I positions. Stephen Strauss can be hired effective 2/15/2023 and Justin Filut can begin on 3/13/2023. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Heather Fellman, Chief Clerk, requested consideration of approval to hire Holli Hughes for the position of Election Coordinator effective 2/21/2023. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Heather Fellman requested consideration of approval to hire Andrea Riley for the position of Assistant Elections Coordinator effective 2/27/2023. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Kathryn Unger, EMA Director, presented an update on COVID-19. The number of county cases stands at 13,754. The State total is 2,865,533. We are in the low level of community spread. Hospitalization is at 1,180. SCI Smithfield has 19 inmates and 3 staff members testing positive. SCI Huntingdon has no inmates and 5 staff members testing positive. The incident rate is 68.1 for the County and 61.6 for the State. PCR is at 11.2% for the County and 12.3% for the State. There are less than 4 cases among residents and 2-8 among staff in long-term care facilities. 25,494 people have been vaccinated in Huntingdon County and 4,646 have received their booster. There were 2 additional deaths in the last week for a total of 279 since the beginning of the pandemic.

There was nothing discussed under matters for action.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary