

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; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Deputy Chief Clerk, Tracey Rhodes; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Planning Director, Jim Lettiere; President Judge, George Zanic; County Engineer, Lee Zeger and Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn.

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 Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the previous week's minutes as presented.

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 no additions to the agenda.

Under announcements, Commissioner Walls commented that Creation is happening this weekend. Please be observant of traffic as there will be a lot of visitors to our county. Commissioner Thomas asked residents to get their COVID vaccines and allow their eligible children to be vaccinated as well. Commissioner Sather commented that there will be lots of visitors to the area this weekend. Please be aware of pets and people while you are enjoying this long holiday weekend.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business, Katie Unger, EMA Director, presented an update on COVID-19. The average number of new cases per day in the county was 7. We are now in the low level of community spread. During this same reporting period, the State saw a decrease in cases at 15,001 cases. SCI Smithfield currently has 22 inmates and 1 staff member testing positive. SCI Huntingdon has no inmates and no staff members testing positive. Our incident rate for the county is 104.1 per 100,000 and the state is 87.7. The PCR percent positivity is 6.1% for the county and 11.6% for the state. Long-term care facilities are doing well. 24,736 vaccines have been distributed in the county. 10,942 boosters have been given. There have been 1,795 that have received a second booster. The county is 49.92% vaccinated. There was one death in the last week for a total of 253. The dominant variant is still Omicron.

George Zanic, President Judge and Lee Zeger, County Engineer, requested consideration of approval for a proposal for engineering services for the Courthouse. Judge Zanic commented that this has been the subject of ongoing discussions since 2015. The work covered in this proposal will address needs for the Courthouse that have been recognized by both the Commissioners and the Judge. Court funding was used a couple of years ago to complete a study with CES Engineering. We are now ready to move forward to address the concerns. Mr. Zeger noted that the concerns addressed in the proposal include security for employees and public on the second floor of the Courthouse, ADA accessibility, HVAC replacement and window replacement. We have broken down the work into different phases and have worked on determining what funding sources can be used for the work. The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Courthouse hasn't been renovated since the 1970s. Commissioner Sather noted that the not to exceed amount for this contract is \$109,650 for the design work. If we decide to proceed with changes to the Courthouse entrance then it will be an additional \$40,000 in design work. Commissioner Walls commented that this is long overdue and we have the funding available now to do it right. This work will also improve efficiency for heating and cooling. There is the potential for significant cost savings over time. Judge Zanic asked if the original projected budget for the whole project included the changes to the Courthouse entrance. Mr. Zeger responded that changes to the entrance are included in the original \$1.9 million budget. Commissioner Walls noted that Mr. Zeger has expressed that it will be cheaper to bid out both parts of the project at once. It makes the most sense to include the change to the entrance in our initial RFP. Mr. Zeger noted that it could be included as an alternate in the RFP. He noted that he is confident in the budget that he has prepared for this project. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to accept the proposal for engineering services including both the main scope of work and the alteration to the Courthouse entrance. Kylie Hawn asked where the funding is coming from for this project. Commissioner Sather

responded that it is coming from ARPA and Court funding. Judge Zanic commented that several years ago the Courts established a fee for court users by administrative order to assist the Commissioners in anticipation of these building needs. This fee is assessed to users of the Court system upon conviction and are collected by the Probation Department. These funds can only be spent with the authority of both the President Judge and the Board of Commissioners. There is certainly not enough money there to renovate the whole Courthouse but it will assist greatly. Commissioner Walls commented that it will not fall on the local real estate property taxes. Judge Zanic commented that for years the Commissioners have looked at how to do this in the most cost effective way and he appreciates their work. Commissioner Thomas noted that there are two other buildings where the windows are worse than the Courthouse windows. That is the Bailey Building and the Sheriff's Office. We should look at those two buildings too for replacement windows. Commissioner Walls agreed that they need to be looked at. Commissioner Thomas asked if the Commissioners agree can Mr. Zeger get us a feasibility study for the window replacement for the Bailey and the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Zeger agreed. Commissioners Sather, Walls, and Thomas all agreed.

Jim Lettiere, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for pay application #7 for the Library Elevator Project in the amount of \$22,939.66. This project should have been substantially completed on May 31<sup>st</sup>. It was not finished within that time frame. Mr. Zeger provided a letter of substantial completion dated June 8<sup>th</sup>. We will be enforcing the deductions from the final payout. It is \$500 per calendar day after the substantial completion date. We are looking at about \$3,500. There were some additional punch list items to complete. Mr. Zeger commented that Eastern Elevator had given a cost estimate at the beginning of this project that Lisa based her grant application on. Their cost estimate was only based on the elevator itself, not the other things that were required. They provided another letter stating some other things that needed addressed. We updated our plans based on their letter and asked them to review the plans before we put it out to bid. They confirmed that this addressed everything they needed. Every time they come to this building now we get new letters with new issues that need to be addressed before the project can be completed. That is what has been delaying the project. Final inspection still has not been done. The punch list has been completed except for one item that they just added. The only concern I have at this point is if water gets into the elevator shaft Eastern has said they will fail the elevator. We have a sump pump that works and gets the water out and we have added a dehumidifier. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Wall, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for renewal of the Compros Maintenance Contract for CPE systems for County 911. This is recommended by our consultant Mission Critical. The total fee for the first year of this contract is \$145,540. For the second year the cost is \$149,905. Commissioner Thomas commented that this is paid for with 911 funding we receive from the State. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

There were no matters for action, information and discussion.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowance.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary