

Huntingdon, Pa.
Tuesday, March 12, 2013
9:30 a.m.
11-2013

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; Mike Hite, Experience Works; Matthew Barnett, Mike Mowrer, Raymond Morningstar and Charlie Coleman, Farm Bureau members; Mark Colussy, Planning Director; Maureen Safko, Grant Administrator; Paul Post, HCBI; Daily news reporter Garrison Crow; visitors Bruce Pergament, and Jim Cassatt.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes;) to approve the minutes of the March 5th public meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the payment of the bills.

There were no additions to the agenda today.

Commissioner Thomas announced that in reviewing the phone system, Lori found another savings of approximately \$6,000.00 per year. Commissioner O’Korn announced that there will be no public meeting next week due to Commissioner’s O’Korn and Thomas attending the CCAP conference. Commissioner O’Korn offered congratulations to Colin Glorioso and Mitchell Hall for their placement in the PIAA Wrestling tournament. Jim Cassatt addressed the Commissioners regarding a discussion last week surrounding the appointment of the member at large for SAPDC. He feels that discussion took place prior to the meeting and he feels that is a violation of the Sunshine law. Solicitor McManamon stated that Michelle brings agenda items to the Board of Commissioners prior to the meeting. The Commissioners are then charged with the task of recommending someone. Solicitor McManamon also stated that in the years he has served as Solicitor, he is not aware of any Sunshine law violation. Commissioner O’Korn followed up by stating that he takes the Sunshine laws very seriously and assured Mr. Cassatt that no meetings took place behind anyones back. Commissioner Fluke stated there were no scheduled, posted meetings.

Bruce Pergament presented Senate Bill 505, which was introduced by Senator Eichelberger last week. The purpose of the Bill is to protect from infringement the individual rights to bear arms. Mr. Pergament asked that the Commissioners consider taking action to support this bill. Commissioner O’Korn stated they will take it under consideration.

Solicitor McManamon presented documents for approval to satisfy a mortgage for Bonney Forge, who recently paid off their EZ loan early. The payoff amount was just over \$200,000.00 and that money has been presented to HCBI for deposit into the EZ loan fund. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to sign the documents as presented to satisfy the mortgage for Bonney Forge.

Matthew Barnett, President of the Farm Bureau was present with other members of the Farm Bureau to provide updates on their programs. Mr. Barnett noted that this is local government week and they felt this was a good time to provide updates. He welcomed the Commissioners to join the Farm Bureau and invited them to upcoming events.

Mark Colussy and Maureen Safko presented a revised Administrative agreement for the Neighborhood Stabilization program with Habitat for Humanity. The original agreement was put in place in 2010 and was for a property in Mapleton Borough. The revised agreement would extend the original deadline from December 2012 to June 30, 2013. It will also allow for an additional \$6,000.00 of NSP funds to be made available for the project. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the revised Neighborhood Stabilization grant agreement as presented.

Mark also announced that he has arranged a workshop to be held March 26th in the Bailey ballroom to assist the public with the new flood plain map modernization project that FEMA recently completed. Mark stated

that there are a lot of areas now effected by flood plains that were not before. His office has been receiving numerous phone calls so he felt it would be helpful to do the workshop.

The Commissioners received a request from the Area Agency on Aging to re-appoint several members to their Advisory Board for an additional on year term. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to appoint Robert Wargo, Gerald Foster, Augusta “Sis” Wargo, Margaret Foster, Luella Coons, Mary Gates and Imogene Blatt to the Agency’s Citizen Advisory board as recommended.

The Commissioners received a request from the Southern Alleghenies Board to appoint several members at-large for their board. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, no) to appoint Dan Brogdon, Sharon Clapper, Dennis Munko, Robert Yelnosky, Jay Cessna, Heather Meck and Art Wilkin as members at-large for the Southern Alleghenies Board of Directors. Commissioner Fluke stated that the procedure that was taken for this appointment was not good for the County and he hopes it never happens again. He also asked why there were seven names for six counties. Commissioner O’Korn stated that he was also dissatisfied with the process but if a member had not been appointed, Huntingdon County would not have had at large representation on the Board. Commissioner Thomas added that Dan Brogdon is from Curryville, Sharon Clapper is from Bedford, Dennis Munko is from Myersdale, Robert Yelnosky is from Huntingdon, Jay Cessna is from Loretto, Heather Meck is from Johnstown and Art Wilkin is from Altoona.

Mike Hite, Experience Works representative for Huntingdon County provided the Commissioners with information on their program. The program, originally called the Green Thumb has been around for many years and provides work skills training to citizens over 55 years of age. There are currently six residents enrolled in the program and enrollment is open. Mr. Hite noted that the County has used the Experience Works program in the past and actually hired one of their graduates.

There were five county burial allowances and installation of one head stone for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary