

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; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; MATP Coordinators, Terry Sheffield and Deb Cramer; Treasurer, Rich Irvin; MHMR Administrator, Chris Wysocki; Register and Recorder, Ginny Cooper; EMA Director, Adam Miller; Daily News reporter, Theresa Mull; Altoona Mirror reporter, John Hoffstetler; visitors Bruce Pergament, Joan and Jim Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 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 payment of bills for last week.

There were no additions to the agenda today.

Commissioner O’Korn announced that today was the last meeting for John Hoffstetler, Altoona Mirror reporter. He thanked John for all he has done and wished him luck in future endeavors.

Bruce Pergament asked Solicitor McManamon if there was a clause in County contracts stating the contractor was responsible for compliance with code regulations. Pete is looking into this and will provide an update at a future meeting. Jim Cassatt had questions regarding the ratio change. He wanted to know if an increase happened, would it be equivalent to a 20% increase over the previous years rates. Commissioner O’Korn stated that was possible but stated that the ratio change was done as a risk management measure, not as a means of raising taxes. Commissioner Fluke commented that taxes cannot be increased in the same year a ratio change is done. Bruce Pergament asked when the ratio change would go into effect. Commissioner O’Korn stated it is for tax year 2013.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor today.

Deb Cramer, Terry Sheffield and Rich Irvin provided an update on the MATP program. The program has been in place for 22 years and has been very helpful for County residents. While the program has experienced cuts, cost cutting measures have been implemented to enable the program to continue. They have been operating within their budget and fully expect the program to continue to be successful.

Ginny Cooper, Register and Recorder requested approval for herself and a staff member to attend two separate conferences. She feels it will be helpful for staff to attend since that has never been done in the past. The total cost of the trainings for two people is approximately \$800.00 over her budget and she requested permission for the overage. The board felt it was best to review the budget and the request prior to approving the additional staff person to attend. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke, and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve Ginny Cooper’s attendance at both conferences as requested. Approval for the additional staff attendance was tabled until next weeks meeting.

Adam Miller, EMA Director requested acceptance of additional money for the HMEP grant. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to accept the additional money for the HMEP grant as requested.

Chris Wysocki, MHMR Administrator provided an update on funding cuts for the MHMR programs. Next years budget is not approved yet but he expects to see approximately 20% in cuts, which will result in program reduction. The funding for 2012/2013 will also come in the form of a block grant to be administered by the County instead of through MHMR as it had been in the past.

Michelle requested permission for Lori Sheffield and Sherri Rogers to attend the CCAP County administration conference on May 30th and 31st. The cost of the conference is \$130.00 per person and is held in State College. Commissioner O’Korn asked if the money was available in their budgets and Michelle replied that it is. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve to conference attendance as requested.

The Solicitor made the proposed changes to the agreement between Dr. Mark Minor and the Huntingdon County Prison. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the agreement as presented.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the revised dress code policy for County employees.

It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the revised cell phone policy for County employees.

There were five veteran burials, one private headstone and lettering of one headstone approved today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m. Minutes prepared by Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary