

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

25-2021

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Office with the following present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Deputy Chief Clerk, Tracey Rhodes; Solicitor, Larry Newton; Planning Director, Jim Lettiere; Director Huntingdon County Community Action, Wendy Mellius; Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn.

Attending via GOTO: Deputy Treasurer, Cathy Bilger; CYS Director, Shannon Walborn; CYS Fiscal Supervisor, Claudia Conrad; CYS Fiscal Tech, Chris Dixon;

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather. Tracey Rhodes conducted roll call of all call-in participants and discussed policies and procedures for public comment during the meeting. All participants will be muted for the duration of the meeting except during public comment periods. During public comment periods, participants will be unmuted individually to ensure that everyone is heard. 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 addition was from Director of EMA, Joe Thompson, regarding the monthly report update. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes). The second addition was to add Director of Tri-County Drug & Alcohol, Mike Hanna, with update.

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas reminds the public if you haven't got your Covid vaccination shot, please attempt to do so. There is a new variant, everything is getting back to normal but encourages everyone who hasn't got the shot. Commissioner Sather hopes everyone enjoyed their Fourth of July weekend, and was able to celebrate our freedom here in the United States. Commissioner Walls announced the beautiful planter outside the courthouse provided by the Huntingdon County Garden Club, and invites everyone to stop by to see it. Wendy Melius, Center for Community Action announced that if anyone needs transportation to a vaccine site that doesn't have transportation available through Medicaid or any other means that they can provide transportation without cost. You can contact Center for Community Action as well as Area on Aging.

There were no public comments.

Matters to be addressed by the solicitor, the County received a letter from the office of Berger and Green regarding an accident that happened at 7 points, Raytown Lake. Berger and Green is unaware that this property is not the responsibility of Huntingdon County, it is under the jurisdiction of The Army Corp of Engineer, Attorney Newton will respond accordingly.

Under new business, Wendy Melius, Center for Community Action, requested consideration of approval for the PHARE Funds Administration Agreement. PHARE, which is Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund. This is an application for \$100,000 applied for last year, they just received the contract due to Covid. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes)

Wendy noted some other services that Center for Community Action provide. They have a vehicle assistance program through CARES Funding to help individuals either get back to work, stay in work, or obtain work as well as being available to those who are in post-secondary educational programs. Also offer a scholarship program, currently in Huntingdon County they have 3 individuals in this programs, they can provide help up to \$2,000. They are also able to help with Mortgage and Utility Assistance.

Cathy Bilger, Deputy Treasurer, requested consideration of approval to hire for the position of part time clerk, Brittany Traxler effective July 6, 2021. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Cathy Bilger, Deputy Treasure, requested consideration of approval to hire 4 temporary, part time Doe Tag Clerks, effective July 12, 2021 to anticipated date of August 20, 2021. Recommending hiring Celia Stever, Connie Banks, Sharon Huff, and Ethan

Varner at \$8.00 hourly. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Dixon, CYS Fiscal Tech, Claudia Conrad, CYS Fiscal Supervisor and Shannon Walborn, CYS Director requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Harbor Creek Youth Services. This is a group home for boys, approval from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes)

Chris Dixon, CYS Fiscal Tech, Claudia Conrad, CYS Fiscal Supervisor and Shannon Walborn, CYS Director requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Families United Network, Inc., out of Muncy PA. They provide foster care as well group home services for both boys and girls. Renewal from last year with state approved rates and as needed bases. Approval from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Dixon, CYS Fiscal Tech, Claudia Conrad, CYS Fiscal Supervisor and Shannon Walborn, CYS Director requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Terry O'Hare, PH. D, located out of Pittsburgh, PA. This is a group home for boys, approval from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022, and renewal from last year on an as needed bases. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes)

Jim Lettiere, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for the Three Springs Borough Act 13 Agreement in the amount of \$10,000 for table replacement at the pool, \$ 9,400 project cost and \$600 will be for administrative fees. Total of 12 tables. One year to complete the project starting July 6, 2021 – July 6, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Jim Lettiere, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for the Solid Waste Management Plan with Barton and Loguidice, D.P.C. Amendment to original agreement signed April 16, 2019 in the amount \$107,200.00. This is 90% completed but since the agency voted to close the recycling facility under the permit for South Central Counties, 4 in Huntingdon, 4 facilities in Fulton, and 2 in Bedford, due to it costing the counties money to continue this program, as a result of this it created a substantial amendment to the plan and requires additional task outline in the agreement. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Joe Thompson, EMA Director, updates on Covid. Early June starting seeing improvement. Huntingdon County is currently at a low level of community transmit in Huntingdon. Averaging 2 cases per day for the past two weeks, no deaths reported for nearly a month, total number of deaths currently stands at 135. Total number of cases over the past year 4,334. Negative test total 16,800, testing is still being conducted in the area. Penn Highlands Hospital has 1 Covid patient with no staff issues. Long term care faculties have had 1 or 2 cases over the past several weeks. SCI Huntingdon, is currently stable, 1 inmate confirmed with not staff issues. SCI Smithfield, running around 20 cases per day at any given time and are keeping their isolation unit operational. Vaccination rates continue to decrease, average is about 33 vaccinations per day in Huntingdon over the last 3 weeks. Partial vaccinations 1,546, full vaccinations 16,500, total vaccinations 18,000 and that is about 40% total population.

Mike Hanna, Director of HMJ Tri County Drug and Alcohol, for the last 6 months working and rotating staff still seeing clients mostly through telehealth. Today is the first day for all employees to be back in the office. Opioid crisis continues to be an issue, as well as meth. If anyone is in need of help with drug or alcohol services please give them a call 717-242-1446.

There were no Matters for Action.

There were (4) Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Tracey Rhodes, Deputy Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary