

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

21-2022

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; Register and Recorder, Jinny Cooper; Register and Recorder Representative, Kelsey Dunn; Probation Director, Len Hahn; Barb Covert and Michelle Heane from CareerLink and Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn.

Shannon Walborn and Chris Dixon from the CYS Department, EMA Director, Katie Unger and guest, Brock Troxell attended remotely 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 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 was one addition to the agenda: consideration of approval to hire for the position of Community Development Administrator. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas asked residents to get their COVID vaccines and allow their eligible children to be vaccinated as well. Commissioner Sather reminded residents that yesterday was the anniversary of D-Day. Let us not forget how our freedom is secured and offer prayers for strength to members of the military and their families.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business, Barb Covert and Michelle Heane from CareerLink requested consideration of approval for the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) contract agreement for 2022-2023. In the past year, this service has helped over 4600 consumers. Commissioner Thomas asked if there is anything built in to accommodate rising gas prices in the trip rates for this contract year. Ms. Covert responded that there is. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the grant agreement and assurance of compliance.

Barb Covert and Michelle Heane requested consideration of approval for the contract agreement for CareerLink to administer the funds for the MATP. This contract agreement will cover July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The tentative allocation is \$877,751. Commissioner Walls noted that 50% of this funding comes from federal sources and 50% comes from the State. This program gives consumers the opportunity to get to their medical appointments and also provides local jobs. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Virginia Cooper and Kelsey Dunn from the Register and Recorder's Office requested consideration of approval to renew the memorandum of understanding with the Center for Community Action and AmeriCorps for the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP). RSVP workers have put in 8,764 hours digitizing county historical documents. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Len Hahn, Probation Director, requested consideration of approval for the updated financial statement for the Adult Grant-In-Aid application. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Len Hahn requested consideration of approval to hire two Adult Probation Officers: Hunter Piper and Jared Schell. Both have satisfactorily completed their pre-employment screenings. Their start date will be June 13, 2022. This will bring the agency to full staff. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Jim Lettiere, Planning Director, requested consideration of approval for change order number 3 for the FFY 2018 Huntingdon County/MUMA Hill Valley Sewer Improvement Project. The project is almost completed. This change will increase the budget by \$1,320. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Jim Lettiere requested consideration of approval for notification letters to be sent to residents related to property access for the New Fording Bridge Replacement Project. Solicitor Newton confirmed that he reviewed the letters and approves. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Jim Lettiere requested consideration of approval for a 901 Planning Grant Extension Letter. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Jim Lettiere requested consideration of approval to hire Jennifer Bellis for the position of Community Development Administrator. She has satisfactorily completed her pre-employment screenings. Her start date will be July 18, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Shannon Walborn and Chris Dixon, CYS Department, requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Project Point of Light for contract year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. They provide counseling services for the agency. This is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Shannon Walborn and Chris Dixon requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Raystown Developmental Services. This is a renewal from last year for contract year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Katie Unger presented an update on COVID-19. She noted that the CDC is now only updating numbers on a weekly basis. The average number of new cases per day in the county was 9. The State stands at an average of 1,049. Huntingdon County is now back in the low level of community transmission. SCI Smithfield currently has 20 inmates and 1 staff member testing positive. SCI Huntingdon has no inmates and 1 staff member testing positive. There is no new data for COVID numbers among children. Juniata College continues surveillance testing. COVID hospitalization for the state stand at 1,329. Our incident rate for the county is 97.5 per 100,000 and the state is 139.7. The PCR percent positivity is 8.1% for the county and 15.8% for the state. Long-term care facilities have had a few additional cases but are still doing okay. 24,683 vaccines have been distributed in the county. 10,863 boosters have been given. There have been 1,516 that have received a second booster. The county is 50% vaccinated. There were no deaths in the last week for a total of 251. The dominant variant is still Omicron.

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 10:27 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary