

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

33-2019

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 present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; CYS Fiscal Tech, Chris Riling; Planning Director, Mark Colussy; Planning Intern, Stan Willis; Recycling Coordinator, Lou Ann Shontz; Probation Director, Len Hahn; Bob Henry from JVBDS; Kathy Whelan and Tiffany Jones from the Center for Community Action; News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitor, Jim Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather, followed in prayer led by Commissioner Sather and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Commissioner Walls.

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019 Public Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve the payment of bills.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Commissioner Walls asked that citizens remember 9/11 and the helpers who responded that day and expressed his hopes that no other such tragedy ever happens again.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Tiffany Jones and Bob Henry presented the Huntingdon County Human Services Plan for approval. This plan will cover July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Riling, CYS Fiscal Tech, requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Harbor Creek Youth Services. Harbor Creek provides residential services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Pathways Adolescent Center. Pathways provides residential and transitional living services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Lifespan Family Services of Pennsylvania. Lifespan provides adoption and foster care services. This is a renewal

from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Riling requested consideration of approval for a purchase of service agreement with Pentz Run Youth Service. Pentz Run provides residential and transitional living services. This is a renewal from last year for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Mark Colussy, Planning Director, and Lou Ann Shontz, Recycling Coordinator, requested consideration of approval to submit the 904 municipal Waste and Performance Grant. Ms. Shontz noted that this is an annual grant and the funding is used to pay for the special collections and educational materials. Commissioner Walls commented that he appreciates the efforts of Ms. Shontz. Jim Cassatt asked if taking glass out of recycling would impact the tonnage to the landfill. Ms. Shontz responded that it would have some impact, though not much. Totals will not be available until the end of the year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Lou Ann Shontz announced the Tire Collection event that is scheduled to occur on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 8am to 12pm. There is a small charge per tire and they will take tires with rims on them for an additional dollar. This event will be held in the Fairgrounds parking lot by the barns.

Lou Ann Shontz announced that the next electronics collection date is September 28 from 9am to 1pm. This event will also take place at the Fairgrounds. This year so far 35.675 tons have been recycled at these special collections. Ms. Shontz expressed her gratitude to the Fair Board for working with her to make sure these events can happen.

Len Hahn, Probation Director, on behalf of Judge George Zanic, requested consideration of approval to hire Ryan Pollicino for the position of Deputy Director of the Pre-Trial Services Division. Mr. Pollicino is currently serving as a probation officer. Mr. Hahn is requesting that this program be implemented as soon as possible. The purpose of the program is to use risk assessment tools to make recommendations to the magistrates. If there is not a significant risk to the community, the goal is to keep those low-risk individuals out of jail. Commissioner Walls asked how many other counties are using a program like this. Mr. Hahn replied that he does not have the exact number, but that it is at least in the teens and it has been very successful in those counties where it has been implemented. Commissioner Walls noted that the jail population in Huntingdon County has ballooned this year while other counties have generally seen decreases. Commissioner Walls hopes that this program will help reduce the jail population in Huntingdon County and save on the cost of incarcerating any diverted individuals. Mr. Hahn noted that this program has been successful in reducing jail populations in several counties including Chester and Allegheny Counties. Commissioner Sather asked for clarification on whether this program would only be used for non-violent offenders. Mr. Hahn confirmed that that is correct. Jim Cassatt asked if anyone had recorded what the cost was versus how much it is saving. Mr. Hahn replied that that has not been done. Currently, we are spending significant money with overpopulation of the jail. This program will address the overpopulation problem and generate savings. There are no exact dollar figures now however because the program has not been implemented yet. Commissioner Thomas noted that if you divert two people from jail this year the program will pay for itself. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

There were no Matters for Action.

There were two Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary