

Huntingdon, PA
Tuesday, April 14, 2009
15-09

The regular weekly meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date in the Commissioners Meeting Room with the following being present: Commissioners Fluke, Hoover, and Kough Pittenger; Scot Gill, Solicitor; Chief Clerk, Cinnamon Bair; Alan Popovich, HP Architects; members of the Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development Corp. and several others including Keith Black, Representative Mike Fleck's Office; Sandy Bair, Pride; Jeff Coppes, Huntingdon Area Elementary Principal; Juniata College interns and Professor; members of the Heritage Baptist Church; to celebrate the Week of the Young Child; George Germann, The Daily News; Jeff Gill, Altoona Mirror; and visitors Pete Ludwig, Dale Morgan, and Charlie Coleman.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Fluke followed by Prayer led by Commissioner Fluke and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Hoover.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the minutes of the April 7 meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to approve payment of invoices for the week of April 13.

Commissioner Hoover had one addition to today's meeting. He asked Scot Gill about a quorum at the 911 meeting. Commissioner Hoover said he chose to attend another meeting thinking that the meeting could be held in his absence. When he learned that the meeting was held but no votes were taken he questioned it. The 911 Board has five voting members and three were present. Scot told the Commissioners that unless the bi-laws state otherwise a majority qualifies as a quorum. Commissioner Fluke said that when the voting was discussed only two voting members were present. Commissioner Kough Pittenger was not present, Chief Streightiff and Commissioner Hoover were not available.

There was no public comment.

The Solicitor, Scot Gill brought up the agreement with PennDOT that was tabled last meeting due to the Solicitor having many questions with it. Scot talked with the County's Bridge Engineer, Brian Wisner and a PennDOT representative. Scot asked them to remove the wording with constructing, because this agreement was for the preliminary engineering, final design, utility relocation, and right of way acquisition costs. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to approve the Reimbursement Agreement for the Huntingdon County, Walnut Grove Bridge with PennDOT.

A second agreement Scot had to submit to the Commissioners was for a JCEL revolving loan that was for the former UNB bank building. The owners requested to sell the back two buildings to Center for Community Action. The back buildings are a small part of the loan. The sale would help the owners with the current total mortgage. Commissioner Fluke asked why selling two thirds of the parcel would only reduce the JCEL \$50,000 mortgage by \$6,700. Scot said the two back parcels were a very small portion; the main collateral was the large Bank building in the front. Commissioner Fluke asked about the life insurance policy and the mortgage being up to date. Scot said this sale would allow that. Commissioner Kough Pittenger said that considering the situation the owners bought the building for a business. Selling the back is a business decision. It is a wise decision for the County to help the business succeed. Commissioner Hoover wanted to make note that the revolving loan money was not from the general fund. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, no; Hoover, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to accept the request from the Shopes' to sell off the back two parcels at the UNB bank building to Center for Community Action and pay down the \$50,000 revolving loan by \$6,700.

Commissioner Hoover asked Chairman Fluke to alter the agenda to allow District Attorney George Zanic to speak before Alan Popovich, HP Architects scheduled first, because George was in the middle of court but requesting to speak at the meeting. Commissioner Fluke asked Alan to wait, Alan agreed. George thanked everyone then requested that he could have permission to apply for a Stimulus funded grant to hire a County Detective and an Administrative Assistant for the Drug Task Force. George told the Commissioners that the grant was a two year grant that did not require a County match. Part of the Grant asks him to provide for funding after the grant to pay for the positions. George explained he intends to pay the salaries with money from drug seizures and

forfeitures. Commissioner Kough Pittenger asked who was working on the Grant. George said it was himself, his staff, Huntingdon Borough Sergeant Tim Rupert, and others. Commissioner Kough Pittenger asked what the salaries would be. George said the Detective approximately \$42,000/yr and the Administrative Assistant approximately \$19,500/yr. George explained he seized 5 vehicles plus cash in 2008. Commissioner Fluke asked where the forfeiture money goes now. George said it is kept in the Drug Task Force account. Commissioner Fluke asked if the positions would be Borough positions. George replied no they would be county employees with county benefits. Commissioner Fluke asked if George would be satisfied to cut the positions if no money was available. George answered yes. George said that the grant figures need to cover all costs for the two years. George Germann asked if the Drug Task Force money would still be available. George Zanic answered yes it was a completely separate grant. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to allow District Attorney George Zanic to apply for a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant.

First on the agenda was the awarding for the mechanical and plumbing bid and electrical bid for the second floor of the Fisher Bailey Building. Alan Popovich the project Architect recommended that both bids be awarded to the low bidder Southern Contractors, Three Springs. Alan said that completion date was June 7th. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Hoover, no; Kough Pittenger, yes; Fluke, yes) to accept the low bidder on two contracts to Southern Contractors.

Next, scheduled on the agenda, was Karl Lang. Karl told the Commissioners he was approached by Bob Houck, County Maintenance Supervisor about the cannon in the front of the Courthouse. Karl said he and Bob looked the cannon over and he felt it could be a liability if someone would climb on it. The wheels need repaired, it is rusted and the cannon, 1885 model 3.2 made in 1906, is in a position that cause's water to run in it causing rust. Karl asked if the Commissioners would agree to allow him and other volunteers including Dr. James Hayden; Robert Stewart III; Steve Lane; Mike Parana; Dan Detwiler, Blair County; and David Karuter's garage. Karl said each volunteer would perform a different repair. The group would create a name to allow them to raise funds. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to allow the cannon to be removed and repaired.

Last on the agenda was Carol Allenbaugh, Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development Corp. Carol brought several Teachers, organizations (most mentioned at the top of the first page), and children from the Standing Stone Pre-K class. The reason for their visit was to announce the week of April 20, 2009 as the "Week of the Young Child". Commissioner Kough Pittenger read the proclamation and Commissioner Hoover read a short story to the children. Carol said the Week of the Young Child was proclaimed to make people aware of how important early education is to children. Events during the week will be advertised in the newspaper and posted at various places. Interns from Juniata College had the children perform a little play for the meeting and face painted the children in the Courthouse hall after the meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to proclaim the week of April 20, 2009 the Week of the Young Child.

There were no veteran burial invoices.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger second by Commissioner Hoover and carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Kough Pittenger, Secretary