

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 Sather, Commissioner Walls and Commissioner Thomas; Chief Clerk, Michelle Barnett; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; President Judge, George Zanic; CYS Fiscal Supervisor, Claudia Conrad; CYS Fiscal Tech, Chris Riling; Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitors Jim Cassatt, Mike Hannon and Bruce Pergament.

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

It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the January 16th 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.

There was an announcement of a meeting with Penn DOT regarding Bridge Rehabilitation in Springfield Township. Public Officials Mtg: 4:00 to 5:00 pm and Public Plans Display: 6:00 to 7:00 pm Springfield Township Municipal Building, 22689 Wible Reunion Road, Three Springs, PA 17264.

Bruce Pergament had questions regarding the Resolution that was to be passed today regarding the Rail Authority. Bruce asked if there is history of other counties owning railways. Commissioner Sather stated that the County has worked with SETACOG, as Mifflin County owns a railway.

Mike Hannon of Tri County Drug and Alcohol was present to provide an overview of the Naloxone distribution and the new laws passed by the Governor regarding the Opioid crisis. Mike will be reaching out to other County offices to provide the Naloxone.

Claudia Conrad and Chris Riling from CYS Fiscal Department were present to request approval of various Purchase of Service Agreements. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve a Purchase of Service Agreement with The Bair Foundation effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve a Purchase of Service Agreement with Keystone Adolescent Center Inc. effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve a Purchase of Service Agreement with Perseus House Inc. effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

The Commissioners took action to approve Ordinance 2018-1 known as Huntingdon County Railroad Authority Ordinance. The Commissioners of the County of Huntingdon and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania intend to use the Ordinance to create a railroad authority to further economic development in the County and surrounding areas through the retention, improvement and/or expansion of rail services. Bruce Pergament asked if taxpayer monies would be used to fund the rail and who will be the authorized title holder of the rail once obtained. Bruce also wanted to know if the selection of the Rail Authority Members was opened to the Public. Commissioner Sather explained that any titles of any rail obtained would be in the name of the Rail Authority. Commissioner Thomas explained that the Ordinance allows the County to create the Authority in the event a rail becomes available. Commissioner Walls expressed that the Board of Commissioners want to support economic opportunities and the rail would permit them to do so. Commissioner Sather explained that the Rail authority is a vehicle similar to the Hospital Authority and General Authority. Solicitor Peter McManamon explained that the Board of Commissioners are within their rights to select the members of the rail Authority members. President Judge George Zanic also confirmed that the Board of Commissioners have the right to appoint the members to the Rail Authority. Daily news Reporter asked if there is an interest in a specific property. Commissioner Sather replied that there are inactive spurs available and vacant buildings that could be brought back. Commissioner Thomas explained that creating the Rail Authority could open up more opportunities.

President Judge George Zanic expressed his appreciation for efforts of this Board of Commissioners as they are being more proactive than the past Boards. Judge Zanic also explained that voting no on everything will cost the County and the budget is the way it is because of this.

There were 0 Veterans Burial allowances.

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

Minutes prepared by Michelle Barnett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary