

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, Walls and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; Solicitor Peter McManamon; Veterans Affairs Director, Lou Ann Shontz; Probation Director, Len Hahn; Treasurer, Susan Harry; Deputy Treasurer, Bobbi Jo Gearhart; Career Link Representatives Terry Sheffield, Barb Covert and Deb Scalia; Daily News reporter, Kylie Hawn; visitors Barry Wright and Tom Ritchey.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather followed by 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 January 19<sup>th</sup> 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 the bills.

There were no additions to the agenda or public comments today.

Commissioner Thomas announced the top five priorities of CCAP. They include the Commonwealth budget and Human Service funding, Revenue option/Tax fairness, Comprehensive Behavioral Health reform, County financial match for Children & Youth services, and maintenance of the Shale Gas impact fee.

First on the agenda today was Terry Sheffield, Barb Covert and Deb Scalia. They provided updates for the Commissioners today on the various programs run through Career Link. Deb Scalia stated that the MATP program has been successful for the past 26 years and was able to continue to operate through the budget impasse. She stated that the MATP money comes through the County and is managed in a separate account with the Treasurer's office. She reviews the expenses each quarter with the Treasurer. Barb Covert provided a review of many other programs offered by the agency including the Adult Education program, the On the Job Training program, Work Force Investment and programs for dislocated workers. Terry Sheffield invited the Commissioners to attend an overview of the services provided by Careerlink. They are presented every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. at the Agency.

Next on the agenda was Lou Ann Shontz, Veterans Affairs Director with a request to submit the Veterans Trust Fund grant. This grant was on hold due to the budget impasse but was opened up recently. The grant, which is due February 5<sup>th</sup>, is in the amount of \$12,107.00 and will be used to help Veterans obtain ID cards. Lou Ann stated there is currently no place in the County for a Veteran to get a military ID Card. She also stated she will be working with local businesses to offer discounts to Veterans who have their ID card. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve the grant application as requested. Commissioner Thomas thanked Lou Ann for making changes to the office to improve services for the Veterans. He has received letters from Veterans commending Lou Ann for her dedication to helping the Veterans.

Len Hahn, Probation Director presented the contract with Central County Youth Center for 2016. The amount of the contract for 2016 is \$137,355.00 and Len noted that the County gets an allotted amount of bed space for that amount. Commissioner Thomas noted that this contract has increased greatly over the past four years. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the contract with Central County Youth Center for 2016.

Next on the agenda was the re-appointment of a Chris Confer to the Ag Land Preservation Board. Chris has served on the board for many years and Celina Seftas is requesting re-appointment for an additional two year term. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to re-appoint Chris Confer to the Ag Land Preservation Board for a term of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

The last item for consideration today was the approval for the Commissioner to attend the Spring CCAP conference. The conference will be held in Harrisburg March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve the Commissioners attendance at the Spring CCAP conference.

There was four county veteran burial allowances for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle L. Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary

