

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 O’Korn, Fluke and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; Shawn Ritchey, Keller Engineers; Treasurer, Rich Irvin; CYS Supervisor, Nicole Leturgy; Probation Director, Tim Guisler; Planning Director, Rich Stahl; District Attorney, George Zanic; Conservation Director, Andy Patterson; Conservation Board members Leslie Cregger, Dennis Johnson and Horace MOWrer; Daily News reporter, Jeff Gill; and visitors Bruce Pergament, June Casella, Jim Cassatt and Joan Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner O’Korn followed by a moment of silence for the victims of the Newtown, Connecticut shootings. Prayer was then led by Commissioner Fluke and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes;) to approve the minutes of the December 11th public meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the minutes of the December 11th, 1:30 p.m. budget meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the minutes of the December 11th, 7:00 p.m. budget meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the payment of the bills.

The only addition to the agenda today was a resolution, which Michelle will present later in the meeting.

Commissioner O’Korn provided information on a press release from DEP on Radon action month, which is January 2013. He also provided the information to the media for release.

Commissioner O’Korn stated if there are public comments to be made on the 2013 budget, they be made during the public comment time. Further stating, during the contemplation of the 2013 proposed budget, we will not be taking any public comment at that time. With that being said, Commissioner O’Korn opened the meeting for public comments. There were no public comments made.

The first item on today's agenda was the approval of the 2013 budget. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (Fluke, no; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the proposed 2013 budget. Commissioner Fluke stated that he did not support the budget because appropriations were not reviewed. Commissioner Thomas disagreed, stating that while appropriations were not reduced, they were reviewed and Commissioner O’Korn agreed. Commissioner O’Korn further stated that all the Commissioners had ample time to discuss their concerns and Commissioner Fluke did not express his concerns about appropriations.

Andy Patterson was present to provide Conservation program updates. Board members Leslie Cregger, Horace Mowrer and Denny Johnson were present as well. Michelle presented a resolution for adoption to recognize Leslie Cregger for his years of service on the Conservation Board. Mr. Cregger has served on the Board for 33 years and will not be seeking re-appointment. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to adopt resolution 24-2012 recognizing Leslie Cregger for his years of service to the Conservation Board. Andy informed the Board that they are seeking a grant for the Shoups Run project. Andy also reviewed the new Ag compliance regulations that will go into effect in January, 2013. He stated that the process will be on a complaint driven basis but will be strictly enforced at that point. Failure by the Conservation staff to followup on complaints will put their funding in jeopardy. Andy stated that he would like to go back to working full time as he voluntarily went part-time three years ago. In addition to the program updates, Andy also requested appointments to fill open positions on the board.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Russell Kyper as Farm Director for a term of four years beginning January 1, 2013.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes;) to appoint Andy Harpster as Farm Director for a term of four years beginning January 1, 2013.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to appoint James Weikert as Public Director for a term of four years beginning January 1, 2013.

Tim Guisler requested approval of a \$10,000.00 PCCD grant application that assists with Probation officer salaries. He has applied for and received this grant every year since 1999. There is a 10% match for the grant and the time period is for April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the grant application as requested.

Shawn Ritchey, Keller Engineers requested approval of two reimbursement requests for St. Marys bridge. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve reimbursement request 8 for St. Mary’s bridge in the amount of \$23,371.70.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve reimbursement request 9 for St. Marys bridge in the amount of \$1,433.83. It was also noted that this is the final reimbursment request for St. Marys bridge.

Richard Stahl requested appointments to the Huntingdon County Planning Commission. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Ann Kyper Reynolds to the Planning Commissioner for a period of four years beginning January 1, 2013.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner O’Korn and carried (Fluke, no; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to appoint Larry Mutti to the Planning Commission for a term for four years beginning January 1, 2013.

Rich also provided an update on the Black Fly program. The program went well and was efficient. Some areas required spraying only once and other areas didn’t require spraying at all.

Rich suggested authorizing Thermocat to conduct an audit to see if there are rebates the County can receive for upgrading the lighting in several areas. This has the potential to net the County several hundred dollars. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to authorize Thermcat to conduct the audit and receive third party payment of 30% of the net proceeds.

Bids were opened for the first floor courthouse renovation project. Bids are as follows:

	CE Wood Const	HAAS Const	Ventura	Mid State	Southern Contractors
Phase I	\$128,700	\$139,000	\$121,864	\$84,500	\$84,888
Phase II	\$83,000	\$101,500	\$99,651	\$48,700	\$58,512
Phase III	\$67,900	\$93,500	\$82,544	\$39,800	\$46,405
Total	\$279,600	\$334,000	\$304,059	\$173,000	\$189,805
Alternate 1	\$11,900	\$15,000	\$11,620	\$6,000	\$8,507
Alternate 2	\$4,000	\$13,000	\$12,520	\$5,500	\$7,490
Alternate 3	\$14,000	\$29,000	\$16,926	\$4,600	\$17,190
Grand Total	\$309,500	\$391,000	\$345,125	\$189,100	\$222,992

The bids will be reviewed by the Board and the Solicitor and awarded at a later date.

Nicole Leturgy requested approval of two contracts. First was an addendum to the guardian ad ledum services provided by Robert Covell increasing the rate to \$70.00 per hour. This has been done recently for all attorneys as they complete required training. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the addendum as requested.

The second item was a Coordination of Services agreement with CYS and UPMC for You. With the Solicitor not being present to review the contract, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to table this item until the next meeting.

George Zanic requested an executive session with the Board to discuss a personnel issue. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas to enter executive session at 11:11 a.m. The executive session ended at 11:21 a.m. with no action being required at this time.

Jeff Gill requested a meeting with the Commissioners by the end of the week to review the budget, what it means to County residents and where cuts were made. Commissioner O’Korn stated that their schedule is tight and most of these items were all addressed at the public budget hearing. He addressed one item that had not been addressed before and that is the monetary value of the 1.35 mil tax increase. He stated that the increase would result in an average cost of \$2.36 per month, per tax payer. Commissioner Fluke commented that the other two Commissioners promised not to increase taxes unless it was absolutely necessary. He referred to the library appropriation stating it should have been reviewed since we are only funding one library now. Commissioner Fluke again stated that appropriations were not reviewed. Commissioner O’Korn stated they were reviewed and that he does not recall any suggested cuts made by Commissioner Fluke. Commissioner O’Korn also pointed out that the tax increase proposed this year is the smallest increase proposed in 14 years. After further discussion, it was decided that Mr. Gill would contact each Commissioner individually over the next few days via email to see if they have comments on the budget.

There were four county veteran burial allowances and installation of one private headstone for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary