

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; Assistant District Attorney, Julia Wilt; Register and Recorder, Virginia Cooper; Planning Director, Mark Colussy; Planner I, Iona Conner; CYS Administrator, Joyce Zolten; Daily News reporter, Kylie Hawn; and Visitors, Mike Hannon and Jim Cassatt

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 November 15th, 2016 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, announcements, public comments, or matters addressed by the Solicitor today.

First on the agenda was Julia Wilt, Assistant District Attorney. She was present to request the approval of the 2017 SAVIN contract. This is a victim notification system that the County has used for several years. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve the 2017 SAVIN contract as presented.

Joyce Zolten was present today with a request to hire two Caseworkers to fill existing vacancies. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls for discussion purposes and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the hiring of Morgan McMahon, Caseworker I effective November 28th, 2016. Prior to the vote Commissioner Walls asked Joyce questions regarding bringing Foster care services back in house. He noted that until 2014, the County was spending approximately \$150,000.00 per year on purchased Foster care. The projected cost for this year for purchased foster care services is \$1.8 million. He continued by stating that while we need to take care of the children, he would like to see a plan on moving those services back in house. He asked if Joyce could find a way to do things more efficiently and she stated she was working on it but doesn't have the information with her but she will have a plan together soon to present to the Commissioners. Commissioner Sather agreed with Commissioner Walls and stated he would like to see those services moved back in house. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve the hiring of Sarah Gongloff, Caseworker I effective December 5th, 2016. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to accept the resignation of Tasha Rega, Caseworker I effective December 2nd, 2016. Joyce noted this will leave her with one open position.

Virginia Cooper was present to request approval of a grant application and letter of support for a \$100,000.00 grant she will be submitting to the National Historical and Archival program. The grant requires a 25% match by the County and will be used to digitize records from 1787 to 1986 and Jinny estimates that will be approximately 1.5 million documents. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the grant application and letter of support as requested. Commissioner Thomas thanked Jinny for her work on digitizing these records. Jinny also thanked Commissioner Thomas for hooking her up with Southern Alleghenies, who was very helpful in writing the grant application. Jinny also informed the Commissioners that this Thursday and Friday from Noon to 4:00 p.m., she and Lou Ann Shontz will be set up in the Annex I conference room to issue Veteran ID cards. This is being done through a grant that Lou Ann Shontz was able to obtain.

Mark Colussy and Iona Conner were present with two requests related to the Broad Top HOME project. They have done their research and found two companies to complete the required home inspections so the project can move forward. They are requesting to hire DK Environmental of Johnstown to do the lead, asbestos, radon and mold testing and Gelsick Home Inspections of St. Mary's to do the final home inspections. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to issue a notice of intent to award to DK Environmental as requested. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to issue a notice of intent to award for Gelsick Home inspections as requested.

Michelle received information on three Conservation Board members whose terms will be expiring at the end of the year and would all like to serve another 4 year term. Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to appoint Russell Kyper, Andrew Harpster and James Weikert to the Conservation Board of Directors for a four year term effective January 1st, 2016.

Michelle provided information on the 2016/2017 Loss prevention grant application offered through PCorp. The grant amount is \$15,000 and will be used for panic alarms for Annex II, Kevlar helmets and shields for Sheriff Deputies and a bullet proof vest for a deputy whose vest is out of date. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Wall, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve the 2016/2017 Loss prevention grant application as presented.

Michelle also provided a union contract for consideration for employees of the Sheriff's Department, Prothonotary's office and District Attorney's office. Commissioner Sather noted that the contract was settled in binding Arbitration and this is the final document for approval. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to approve the union contract with Teamsters Local 110 for a period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. Kylie Hawn asked why it was in arbitration for so long. Commissioner Thomas stated that once it's in the hands of the arbitrators, it takes time to get a decision. Michelle also noted that the arbitration decision was received 2 months ago but the final contract was just received last week.

The Commissioners considered the hiring of a bond underwriter to assist with the process of obtaining funding for the 911 build out project. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to hire Janney, Montgomery, and Scott LLC. of Pittsburgh as the Bond underwriter for the project. Also for consideration was the hiring of Bond Council. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to table the hiring of Bond council until the next meeting so they can obtain further information.

There were ten Veteran Burial Allowances for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary