

Huntingdon, Pa.
Tuesday, March 5, 2013
9:30 a.m.
10-2013

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; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Court Administrator, Deb Higgins; Lieutenant, Jeff Leonard; EMA Director, Adam Miller; Chief Tax Assessor, Ken Tucker; CYS Administrator, Joyce Zolten; Sheriff, Bill Walters; Mapping Director, Brian Young; Daily news reporter Garrison Crow; visitors Bruce Pergament, Kevin Fluke and Jim Cassatt.

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Commissioner O’Korn followed by prayer led by Commissioner O’Korn and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Commissioner Fluke.

It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes;) to approve the minutes of the February 26th public meeting.

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

There were no additions to the agenda today.

Commissioner Thomas thanked the State Representatives, business leaders, community leaders and the public who attended the rally to support the Amtrak service.

Bruce Pergament announced that Senator John Eichelberger introduced a bill to the Senate yesterday regarding House Bill 357. Kevin Fluke stated that he has a comment on a specific agenda item. He asked if he should address it during public comment time or when the item is addressed. Commissioner O’Korn stated he could address it whenever he prefers. Kevin stated he would comment when the item is addressed.

There were no items addressed by the Solicitor today.

Debbie Higgins presented two agreements with Infocon for approval. The County received notification from AOPC that they would reimburse the County up to \$46,000.00 to implement a document imaging system of criminal records. Debbie and Kay Coons have worked with Infocon and RBA to compile the cost of the equipment to implement the system. The project must be in place and complete by May 31st, 2013 in order to receive the reimbursement. Debbie also noted that the service being purchased for this project will be able to be utilized for other functions as well.

The two contracts presented today are for the data processing and backup services. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the agreement with Infocon for on-line data processing service.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the agreement for remote image files backup services.

Brian Young requested permission to attend the 2013 PA State GIS conference on June 4th and 5th, 2013. The cost of the conference is \$199.00 and the hotel cost is \$129.12. Brian noted that money is in his budget for the conference. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the conference attendance as requested.

Ken Tucker requested permission to attend the AAP 65th annual conference April 24th through 26th, 2013. Ken noted that he did not attend this conference last year and the money is budgeted this year for him to attend. The cost of the conference is \$400.00 and he has budgeted for it.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; Fluke, yes; O’Korn, yes) to attend the conference as requested.

Adam Miller announced that he has applied for and been awarded \$13,360.00 to update the Hazardous Mitigation Emergency Preparedness plan for the County. \$6,500.00 will be used for program updates and \$8,160.00 will be used for training. Adam requested the Commissioners accept the grant on behalf of the County. It was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to accept the grant as requested.

Joyce Zolten requested approval of a purchase of service agreement today. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the purchase of service agreement with Arrow Child and Family Ministries of Pennsylvania for a period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Joyce also requested permission to hire Katherine Armstrong, Caseworker effective March 18th, 2013. Katherine left her employment with CYS last year and has asked to return. Joyce noted that since Katherine has already completed her training, she will not need to take it again. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the hiring of Katherine Armstrong, Caseworker effective March 18, 2013.

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to accept the resignation of Josh Yoder, Probation officer effective March 15th, 2013.

Michelle Cerett requested approval to hire a part-time as needed person for the Commissioners office. This position was budgeted last year as well but was not filled. A staff person in the office will be out on medical leave for six to twelve weeks beginning March 18th and Michelle feels the part-time, as needed person will be necessary. Commissioner Thomas noted that as a part-time person, this employee will not receive benefits. Commissioner O’Korn noted that the Commissioners will decide the “as-needed” portion for this position. Michelle noted this person will be used for a variety of tasks in the office, including the election. She has applied for two interns to assist with the election as well. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes) to approve the part-time, as needed staff for the Commissioners office.

The Commissioners received a request from Southern Alleghenies to nominate an at large member for their Board due to the retirement of an at large member. Commissioner O’Korn entertained a motion for nominations. It was moved by Commissioner O’Korn, seconded by Commissioner Thomas to nominate Robert Yelnosky as a member at large for the Southern Alleghenies Board. Commissioner Fluke stated that it is his understanding that the person retiring is an employee of Juniata College. He further stated that in his years on the Southern Alleghenies Board, he feels that person used his position on the Board to benefit Juniata College. Commissioner Fluke stated he feels they need to nominate somebody that will represent a different segment of society. Commissioner Fluke contacted a self employed resident and he has agreed to serve. Commissioner Fluke began to make a motion but Commissioner O’Korn stated there is a motion on the table to nominate Robert Yelnosky so he’s not sure it is appropriate to discuss other people at this time. Commissioner Thomas noted that the person nominated today will not necessarily be appointed to the Board. He further stated that a list of names will be submitted to the Southern Alleghenies Board and it will be up to that Board to make the appointment. Kevin Fluke addressed the Board stating he hasn’t heard them make an announcement that Toyota has called regarding land in the County to develop a manufacturing plant that would employ 900 to 1,000 people. He further stated it probably hasn’t been announced because it hasn’t happened and likely will not happen. He stated that what we need to think about is the potential growth of our local economy falling on the shoulders of small businesses. With this in mind, he feels it would be wise to appoint someone to Southern Alleghenies who has experience in small business. Kevin asked if this appointment was viewed as an entitlement to a specific institution. Lastly, he stated that there are certain circles that things flow in and others are excluded and he feels it is time to break that chain. Commissioner O’Korn stated that he doesn’t not view this as an entitlement. The person he nominated does work at Juniata College, however he has know him for many years. He views Mr. Yelnosky as fiscally responsible and conservative. Kevin pointed out the motion was made prior to any discussion. Commissioner O’Korn stated that he asked for motions and none were given so he made his own motion. Jim Cassatt expressed frustration in the fact that the names of those available were not shared. He stated it is apparent that a decision was made outside the meeting. Commissioner O’Korn stated that there was discussion but no decisions were made and no votes were discussed. Commissioner O’Korn lastly stated that each Commissioner had ample opportunity to make their own motion. No motion was made so he made his own. Bruce Pergament stated that he agrees with Dean and Kevin. He pointed out that there are 45,000 people in the County and 1,800 at Juniata College. He feels if the County can be better represented by another individual, he recommends going that way as well. Commissioner O’Korn called for a vote on the nomination that is on the table. It was moved by a vote of 2:1 (Thomas, yes; O’Korn, yes; Fluke, no) to nominate Robert Yelnosky as a member at large for the Southern Alleghenies Board.

Lieutenant Leonard was present today with canine dog Britt to recognize K9 Veterans Day. The United States K9 Corps was created on March 13th, 1942. Joseph J. White, a Vietnam Veteran and retired

military dog handler pioneered a nation wide effort to recognize every March 13th as K9 Veterans Day. The Commissioners felt it appropriate to sign a proclamation in recognition of this important day. Commissioner O’Korn shared the proclamation and Lieuteant Leonard answered questions about Britt. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (O’Korn, yes; Fluke, yes; Thomas, yes) to adopt the Proclamation recognizing every March 13th as K9 Veterans day.

There was one county burial allowance and installation of one head stone for approval today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m. Minutes prepared by Michelle Cerett, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary