

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

12-2019

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 present: Commissioners Sather, Walls, and Thomas; Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Veterans Affairs Director, Brian Bassett; Treasurer, Susan Harry; Court Reported, Angela Robinson; Deputy Court Administrator, Stephanie Smith; President Judge, George Zanic; Corey Troutman of Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Solutions Inc.; Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitors, Jim Cassatt, Barry Wright, Gary O’Korn, Wade Booher, and Steve Jackson.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather, followed in prayer led by Commissioner Sather and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag 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 March 19, 2019 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.

Commissioner Sather announced that April is Safe Digging Month and encouraged all residents to call 811 before beginning projects that involve digging to minimize damage to underground utility lines.

Jim Cassatt asked whether the payment had been made on the Bailey Building and the 911 Center. Commissioner Sather answered that payments have been made and continue to be made. Mr. Cassatt asked for clarification on whether it was paid with this year’s money or last year’s. Commissioner Sather answered that it is paid with what we have coming in in revenue. Jim Cassatt asked again about the \$1.3 million for the budget impasse in 2015 and 2016. Commissioner Sather answered that during his research he could not find any reference to \$1.3 million at that time. He did find end of year expenses related to the impasse showing that the county was \$1.44 million in the negative that year. If there was a \$1.3 million in income as a result of that impasse, it would have been used to pay off the carryover.

There were no matters to be addressed by the Solicitor.

Treasurer, Susan Harry, asked for consideration of approval to hire Debbie Shelley on a part-time, temporary basis through the Title 1 program. The new employee would be available for a maximum of 30 hours per week for 12 weeks. This position would be fully funded by Career Link. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Veterans Affairs Director, Brian Bassett asked for consideration of approval to attend the Annual State Veterans Association Conference on June 16<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. This conference is required to continue

his accreditation with the Veteran's Association. The total cost is \$408.48 and he is requesting use of a county vehicle. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Corey Troutman, from Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Solutions Inc. asked for consideration of approval for a contract to transition to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The county is currently preparing modified cash-basis financial statements and would like to transition to modified accrual. This transition can be accomplished in four phases. The first phase is to provide the county assistance in preparing a GAAP basis financial statement. The second phase would be to assist the county with budgeting in accordance with GAAP based financial accounting for the next fiscal year. The third phase is to assist the county in preparation of the annual financial statements as well as the disclosures and assist in the preparation for the audit. The fourth phase is to provide assistance as necessary. The fees are based on what services are used. Commissioner Sather noted that right now they are looking at Item A to convert to GAAP for this year. This is a budgeted, fixed-fee item which is not to exceed \$42,000. Jim Cassett asked if the revenues would show in the budget in this system. Corey Troutman answered that revenues will be matched with expenditures in this new system. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

President Judge, George Zanic, discussed his concerns about the safety and accessibility of the Orbisonia District Justice's Office. Judge Zanic does not feel that his concerns have been adequately addressed. As a result, he plans to temporarily close the office in Orbisonia and move the operations of that office to the Courthouse and Justice Brenneman's Office.

The Commissioners reviewed a recommendation by the Executive Director of the Area Agency on Aging, Connie Brode, to appoint members to a one-year term on the Agency Citizens Advisory Counsel. The recommended members are Imogene Blatt, Margaret Foster, Mary Gates, Sarah Locke, Nancy MacNamara, and Kathryn Hawn. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Joe Thompson to attend the Southern Alleghenies EMS Council Annual Legislative Breakfast. There are no expenses associated with this event. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Joe Thompson to attend the Regional Task Force Full Scale Exercise at Tyrone Hospital. There are no expenses associated with this event. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Joe Thompson to attend the Blair County Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) Summit. There are no expenses associated with this event. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for Joe Thompson to attend the Regional Task Force Homeland Security Conference. There are no expenses associated with this event. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Under Matters for Action, Consideration, and Discussion, consideration of approval was given to the Teamsters Local 110 and Huntingdon County Court-Appointed Unit Agreement. This agreement is for January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Commissioner Thomas thanked the Union for working with the county to get this agreement taken care of. Judge Zanic asked if the county would have to pay back wages to 2017. Commissioner Thomas answered that the county will do this and it is budgeted for. Judge Zanic further asked when negotiations will begin for the next contract. Commissioner Thomas answered that they will begin in June. Jim Cassatt asked if employees who are no longer working with the county will receive the same back pay. Commissioner Sather answered that only employees who have remained employed with the county will benefit from the union agreement. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

There were 4 Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary