

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

13-2020

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioners Office with the following present: Commissioners Sather, Walls and Thomas and Chief Clerk, Heather Fellman. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the following individuals were present via GoToMeeting: Solicitor, Peter McManamon; EMA Director, Joe Thompson; News Reporter, Kylie Hawn and visitor, Connie Berrier.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Sather. Chief Clerk Heather Fellman conducted roll call of all call-in participants and discussed policies and procedures for public comment during the meeting. All participants will be muted for the duration of the meeting except during public comment periods. During public comment periods, participants will be unmuted individually to ensure that everyone is heard. Prayer was led by Commissioner Walls and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Commissioner Thomas.

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 31st 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 Thomas encouraged residents to stay calm, stay safe, and stay home. He further announced that the Broadband Taskforce has extended the deadline for participation in their survey until the end of April. He is encouraging all residents to participate. Heather Fellman provided information for the public to call in and participate in next week's public meeting. The call in number is 1(866)899-4679 and the access code is 725-521-197.

There was no public comment.

There were no items to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business, Joe Thompson, EMA Director, offered an update on COVID-19 efforts. His office is maintaining a daily presence in the operations center. They have just begun their third distribution of personal protective equipment for emergency responders and law enforcement. At the moment, there are no significant unmet needs in the county and the social services liaison has been activated.

Joe Thompson requested consideration of approval to decline the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning grant extension for training. The grant extension was just awarded two weeks ago but the project must be completed by June 30th. There is no way to get this done given the present situation and directives for social distancing and stay at home orders. His office has reached out to find out if they can get an extension and they were told that would not be possible. It was moved by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Joe Thompson requested consideration of approval for an updated Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) agreement with FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. This will maximize functionality of the system in the event of an emergency. Commissioner Walls offered his compliments to Mr. Thompson and his staff for their efforts. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Walls and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Consideration of approval was given for a taxable bridge loan in the amount of \$1.5 million with a term of 6 months. This loan is being taken out due to softening revenues as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Bids were opened at the last public meeting. The Commissioners have reviewed the bids and would like to accept the bid from Community State Bank at 2.2% interest with a 6 month maturity date. Commissioner Walls abstained from the vote but endorsed the actions of the other two Commissioners. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Walls, abstain; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

There were no matters for action, information and discussion.

There were no Veteran's Burial Allowances.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Walls to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary