

Huntingdon, PA
Tuesday, February 24, 2009
08-09

The regular weekly meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date in the Commissioners Meeting Room with the following being present: Commissioners Fluke, Hoover, and Kough Pittenger; Scot Gill, Solicitor; Chief Clerk, Cinnamon Bair; Alan Popovich, HP Architects; Lou Ann Shontz, Recycling Coordinator; Richard Stahl, Planning Director; George Germann, The Daily News and visitor Dale Morgan.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Fluke followed by Prayer led by Chief Clerk Cinnamon Bair and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Kough Pittenger.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the minutes of the February 17 meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve payment of invoices for the week of February 23.

There was one addition to today's meeting.

There was no public comment at today's meeting.

First scheduled on the agenda was Asbestos Abatement Bid award. Alan Popovich, Architect for the Elks/Courthouse renovations was present. Alan by letter to the Commissioners recommended Power Component Systems, Inc of Harrisburg to include the base bid for Phase I and Phase II for \$39,297. Alan went on to recommend the County accept Alternate 2 (\$21,993) and Alternate 3(\$9,685); for a total of \$70,975. Alan told the Commissioners that this would remove all of the asbestos from the building. Power Component Systems, Inc was the low bidder. Alan spoke to them about the cost difference from the other proposals and Mr. Todd Qualigy felt comfortable with their bid proposal. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Hoover; Commissioner Hoover that this was the second vote regarding the Elks building renovation, he told everyone present that he felt it would be much more cost effective to build a new building. The Elks building is an old building and is not energy efficient and will cost more in the next fifty years than a new building; Commissioner Kough Pittenger said the Commissioners had talked about the cost difference with the Architect and were told that the lower of the two would be renovation. When asked Alan said the time frame and space needed, the historical aspect, along with the costs made the choice to renovate the best option knowing that there would be some deficiencies. The motion was then carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the low bidder for asbestos abatement, Power Component Systems, Inc.

Second scheduled on the agenda was Lou Ann Shontz, Recycling Coordinator and Richard Stahl, Planning Director. They were requesting permission to submit an application for reimbursement for the household hazardous waste collection held October 25, 2008. The grant total is \$18,227.85. The South Central Counties Solid Waste Agency will receive 50% of the approved Expenditures. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve submitting the application.

Richard had a letter from Centre County regarding the household hazardous waste collection the County had currently worked with Chem-Sweep program through the Department of Agriculture, but the program will not be in Pennsylvania in 2009. Centre County is asking nearby Counties to work together to put out an RFP for a contractor. Commissioner Fluke asked how the Department of Agriculture was involved. Lou Ann said that they ran the Chem-Sweep Program. Lou Ann told the Commissioners that everything should be the same except the contractor. George Germann asked how our citizens It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to agree to work with Centre County. Richard got the approval to sign on behalf of the County.

A \$75,000 grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development was awarded for research and surveys on the needs of the County in the areas of retirees, recreation, manufacturing, and energy. JCEL would submit surveys to residents asking questions about these clusters. The Commissioners asked Richard Stahl to recommend they survey all the clusters not only retirees and recreation. Commissioner Hoover added wood products should be included. Commissioner Fluke said this should not be used to survey the railroad trestle. Richard Stahl said the grant did not include that project. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to sign the \$75,000 contract with the understanding that all clusters will be looked at.

As part of the \$75,000 grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development the Board of Commissioners agreed in June 2008 to sign an agreement with JCEL to administer the grant. The contract was not ready until now. Richard Stahl brought the contract and had the Commissioners sign it.

Richard Stahl asked the Commissioners to approve general fund money to pay for conduit to be placed by Penn Networks while fiber optic lines are being run from the Annex I building to a pole near Washington Street. The Annex I building has needed electrical upgrades, but the service was not able to be brought to the building from poles due to a right of way issue. The conduit will be ready for future electric upgrades. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the \$698 expense.

Keller Engineers sent a notice to proceed letter to the Commissioners to sign. This will give them the approval to start bridge inspection for 2009.

Next on the agenda were the appointments of the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board. Andy Patterson sent a letter to the Commissioners recommending Larry Mutti (3yr), Richard Stahl (3yr), Sharon Dell (2yr), and Chris Confer (1yr). Andy also recommended Larry Mutti be appointed to a 1 year term as Chairman. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger. Commissioner Fluke said he had a problem with the appointment of Richard Stahl. Commissioner Fluke said that County Department Heads should not be serving on boards for these programs. Commissioner Fluke said the County should not be supplying maps, etc to programs at the County's expense. Commissioner Kough Pittenger said that Richard Stahl represents the County and the County should have representation at these boards. Commissioner Fluke said that he agrees to a point, but the County is not reimbursed for time and resources. Those costs should be part of the program. Commissioner Hoover said that the matter of being on the board was different than that of reimbursement to the County. Commissioner Kough Pittenger had concerns regarding an article in the Daily News a few days before about the Conservation Office cutting services to the residents due to the cuts in funding from the County. Commissioner Kough Pittenger said that part of the said part of the County Planner's job was to keep track of development in the County. Scot added to help correct problems with subdivisions, etc. Commissioner Fluke said Andy Patterson has more responsibility and he is not controlled by the County. Scot said that Andy works for the State. Commissioner Hoover said according to the paper the Conservation District would not have personnel to issue general permits. Roll call was taken after the discussion and carried (Fluke, no; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to approve the above as members of the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

The Commissioners approved payment for 1 veteran burial allowance, 1 widow/widower burial allowance and 1 base.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger second by Commissioner Hoover and carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Kough Pittenger, Secretary