

Huntingdon, Pa.
Tuesday February 22nd, 2011
7-2011

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 Kough Pittenger, Hoover, and Fluke; Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett; Solicitor, Peter McManamon; Karl Lang, Tax Collector; Rich Irvin, Treasurer; Richard Stahl, Planning Director; Maureen Safko, Grant Administrator; Matt Price, Executive Director of the Visitors Bureau; Josh Funk, Daily News; and visitors Bruce Pergament and Gary O'Korn.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Hoover followed by Prayer led by Commissioner Fluke and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Commissioner Hoover.

There were no additions or corrections to the February 15th minutes.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to approve the minutes of the February 15th meeting.

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

There was one addition to the agenda today. It will be addressed at the end of the meeting.

There were no items to be addressed by the Solicitor today.

There were no public comments today.

Karl Lang was present today to provide the Commissioners with an update on the restoration of the historic canyon that is housed at the Courthouse. Karl has received assistance from members of the U.S. Army at Letterkenny to restore the gun. The wood for the spokes was donated and Karl is very grateful for all the help he has received on this project. He is hopeful that it will be completed sometime in May or by Veterans day at the latest. Upon completion, there will be a re-dedication service.

Next on the agenda was Matt Price, Visitors Bureau and Rich Irvin, Treasurer. Matt and Rich provided the Commissioners with the most recent Visitors Bureau audit. Rich stated that the revenue for the Visitors Bureau was down related to non-payment of the hotel excise tax from the Raystown Lodge. This accounted for a decrease in revenue of approximately \$70,000 in the 2009/2010 Fiscal year for the Bureau. Rich will be pursuing further action to collect this revenue.

Matt provided an update on the progress of the Visitors Bureau. The Bureau has approximately 250 business members, 225 of those members are from Huntingdon County. Matt also reported that visitors spent \$110.8 million dollars in Huntingdon County in 2009, creating a \$116.9 million economic impact. Matt pointed out that Tourism, active retirement and wood products have been identified by HCBI and JCEL that are most poised for growth in Huntingdon County.

For every three jobs that are created in the tourism industry, another two jobs are created in industries that serve tourism.

Matt also requested the appointment of two members to the Visitors Bureau Board. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger, seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes) to appoint David Lightner and Rob Schrack to the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau Board for a term of three years.

Rich Stahl and Maureen Safko presented the Commissioners with a request from Porter Township for assistance with sewer laterals and tap fee's in the Juniata Valley Pike and South Porter areas. This assistance is made possible through CDBG funds. It will assist low and moderate income home owners in the amount of approximately \$5,000.00 per household.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger, seconded by Commissioner Hoover and carried (Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to apply for CDBG funding to assist Porter Township with the sewer laterals and tap fees.

Rich presented the Commissioners with a request to contract with Wade Van Landingham to do additional work related to updating the Comprehensive Plan. Rich recommended completing an economic profile for \$1,500.00 and a demographic analysis for \$3,600.00. These two surveys are necessary to complete the Comprehensive plan update. It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Hoover, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to contract for these additional services as recommended.

Rich received a request from Warriors Mark Township for assistance with revising their zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Planning office is willing to provide this assistance and quoted the Township an estimated cost not to exceed \$5,000.00. Rich estimates that it will take six to twelve months to complete the revisions. Rich has drafted a contract, had it reviewed by the Solicitor and presented it to the Commissioners for approval today.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes) to approve the agreement for the Planning Department to assist Warriors Mark Township with the revision of the zoning and subdivision ordinances as presented today.

Rich informed the Commissioners that there is a possibility of a decrease in CDBG funding in the near future. The proposed Federal budget calls for a 20% decrease in CDBG funding. Rich said he will continue to monitor the issue and update the Commissioners accordingly.

The addition to the agenda today was the approval of the County Purchasing policy. The policy was created by the Solicitor and reviewed by the Commissioners. It was moved by Commissioner Hoover, seconded by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried (Hoover, yes; Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes) to approve the County Purchasing Policy.

It was moved by Commissioner Kough Pittenger, seconded by Commissioner Fluke and carried (Fluke, yes; Kough Pittenger, yes; Hoover, yes) to re-appoint Donald Trego to the Huntingdon County Housing authority for a term of five years effective March 1, 2011.

There were no veteran documents to be signed today.

There being no further business, it was moved by Commissioner Fluke second by Commissioner Kough Pittenger and carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Minutes prepared by Chief Clerk, Michelle Cerett.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Kough Pittenger, Secretary