

Huntingdon, PA

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

38-2021

The regular meeting of the Huntingdon County Commissioners was held on the above date and time in the Commissioner's Office with the following present: Commissioners Walls and Thomas; Deputy Chief Clerk, Tracey Rhodes; Solicitor, Larry Newton; EMA Staff Member, Doug Hart; Community Development Administrator, Stacia-Fe Gillen; District Attorney, Dave Smith and Daily News Reporter, Kylie Hawn. The following individuals attended via GoToMeeting: Commissioner Sather; CYS Fiscal Supervisor, Claudia Conrad and CYS Fiscal Tech, Chris Dixon.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commissioner Walls. Tracey Rhodes 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 Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes) to approve payment of bills.

There was one addition to the agenda: Resolution 12-2021 for the bond issue for Juniata College. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes) to add this item to the agenda.

Under announcements, Commissioner Thomas encouraged all residents who are able to get the COVID vaccine.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters to be addressed by the solicitor.

Under new business, consideration of approval was given to appoint Perry Smith to the Huntingdon County General Authority Board. Mr. Smith comes very highly recommended and will make a great addition to the board. It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Larry Newton requested consideration of approval for resolution 12-2021 which approves the undertaking of the General Authority to finance a project for Juniata College. This bond issue for the college will not create any liability for Huntingdon County local government or residents and tax payers. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Stacia-Fe Gillen, Community Development Administrator, requested consideration of approval for a Notice of Award to Antares Site Work, LLC for the West Water Street Water Line Replacement Project. This is a partially funded fiscal year 2018 CDBG project. The funding for CDBG project is \$60,000 and the Notice of Award is for \$91,343. This is in cooperation with the Mount Union Municipal Authority so they have already signed a sub-recipient agreement acknowledging that they will cover the difference. It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Thomas, yes; Mark, yes; Walls, yes).

Stacia-Fe Gillen requested consideration of approval for a Service Agreement with Antares Site Work, LLC for the above mentioned project. The work will be completed and ready for final completion within 60 days. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

David Smith, District Attorney, requested consideration of approval to send Assistant District Attorney Ethan Wilt to the Basic Prosecutors Course from November 29th to December 2, 2021. This will satisfy continuing education requirements. The cost is \$250. This is a budgeted expense. It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Dixon, CYS Fiscal Tech, requested consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers. They offer residential and foster care services for the agency. This is for contract year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This is a renewal from last year at the state-approved rates. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Thomas, yes; Sather, yes; Walls, yes).

Chris Dixon requested consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development Corporation. They offer daycare services for children in care. This is for contract year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Sather, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Chris Dixon requested consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with Cenclear Child Services, Inc. They offer counseling services for the agency. This is for contract year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This is a renewal from last year. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Walls, yes; Thomas, yes; Sather, yes).

Chris Dixon, CYS Fiscal Tech, requested consideration of approval for a Purchase of Service Agreement with the Children's Aid Society of Franklin County. This is for contract year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Sather and carried (Sather, yes; Walls, yes; Thomas, yes).

Doug Hart from the EMA Office provided an update on COVID-19. Huntingdon County remains in the high rate of community spread. We averaged 29 cases per day in the last week in Huntingdon County. The State saw a large increase during this time period from 4,413 new cases per day the week before to 5,253 this week. SCI Smithfield has 20 inmate cases and 4 staff cases. SCI Huntingdon has 0 inmate cases and 4 staff cases. County schools are not reporting any significant issues. There were 30 COVID cases among school-aged children in the county during the week of September 29 - October 5. As of the last time I spoke with Penn Highlands, they had 8 COVID patients. The ICU is also close to full. Currently COVID hospitalizations for the state stand at 2,967. The incident rate for the County per 100,000 is 310. The percent positivity rate went down to 10.3% from 13.9% the prior week. The state has stayed pretty steady at 9.6%. We are not seeing any significant concerns from the long-term care facilities. We are

continuing to see that the majority of new cases, hospitalizations, and deaths are among the unvaccinated. The total number of people partially or fully vaccinated in Huntingdon County is 20,600. This is about 45% of the eligible population of the county. Booster shots are being given. Seniors, people who are constantly exposed to the virus and people with compromised immune systems are encouraged to get a booster. Commissioner Sather praised the EMA office for their work to keep the public informed during the pandemic.

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 Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather N. Fellman, Chief Clerk.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas, Secretary