

The regular meeting of the Clearfield County Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 with Chair Scotto, conducting the meeting. The following were in attendance: Commissioners Sobel and Glass; Heather Bozovich, Solicitor; Tom Adamson, Controller; Margie Rossellie, Victim Witness Director; Dawn Graham, Director of Elections; Yvonne Lehmann, Radio WOKW; Jessica Shirey, gantdaily.com; Jeff Corcino, Progress/Courier; Adam Curry, IT Director; Lisa McFadden, Chief Clerk

Minutes of the previous meeting of August 11, 2020 were approved by motion of Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Controller Adamson presented the following bills for approval: General Fund, \$588,124.57; Liquid Fuels Fund, \$19,855.42; Hazardous Materials Fund, \$75.48; 911 Fund, \$315,473.70; Communities Development Block Grant, \$13,190.26; Domestic Relations, \$8,958.31; Children Youth Services Fund, \$423,401.44; CARES Act Fund, \$404,578.70. Approval of the bills by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Changes

New Hires – Katelyn Ecke, Deputy Warden/Jail, effective 8/17/2020.

Nancy Collins, Temporary Department Clerk III, Election Office, effective 8/20/20

Porter Kling, Temporary Deputy Sheriff, effective 8/24/2020

Kaitlin Evans, Deputy Controller, effective 8/31/20

Patricia Bumbarger, Department Clerk II/Prothonotary, effective 9/8/20.

Recissions – Mark Michael, Deputy Controller, effective 8/17/2020.

Separations/Retirements - Craig Westover, Part-time Corrections Officer, effective 8/11/20.

Dale Confer, 911 Telecommunicator, effective 8/17/2020.

William Chase, Deputy Sheriff, effective 8/18/2020

Commissioner Glass commented that the new Deputy Controller is Controller Tom Adamson's daughter and does not think this is a good move but legally the Commissioners are bound to approve the people that he brings before us. Commissioner Sobel commented that he shared Commissioner Glass's concerns however the law in Pennsylvania is that an Elected Official can employ who he/she wishes and they have no control over the situation therefore, made the motion to approve the personnel changes presented, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously. Controller Adamson said that hiring family is not the ideal situation but under certain circumstances it is a necessity to hire someone immediately. Mr. Adamson said there were five candidates for the position and Katelyn was the only one with the qualifications, background and experience for the position and previously worked for Children Youth Services and knows the workings of the County also has banking experience.

Public Comment - None

Old Business – None

New Business

Margie Rosselli asked the Board to consider the Rights and Services Agreement and Victims of Juvenile Offenders Agreement. The grant is for a two year period and the grant amount is \$154,792. Services are provided to victims of adult and juvenile offenders. Motion to execute the grant agreement by Commissioner

Dawn Graham asked that the Board approve the relocation of the Sandy Township – Sabula Precinct from the Hickory Grange to the Tri County Church. Ms. Graham explained that there is no phone nor cell phone service at this location. The Tri County Church has ample parking, handicapped accessibility and also phone and cell service. Motion to relocate the polling location by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel, motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Graham announced plans to relocate the Clearfield Borough – 2nd Ward polling location. Ms. Glass explained that for the Primary Election due to COVID the County was asked to move the polling location from the Henry Myer Towers for the safety of the tenants. At that time the polling place was relocated to the Saint Francis School cafeteria as school was not in session.

Ms. Graham announced that Burnside Borough polling location will be returning to the Burnside United Methodist Church. The polling location was moved in the Primary Election due to a neighboring fire that caused damage to the church.

Chair Scotto asked for a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Clearfield-Jefferson Drug and Alcohol Commission for use with Children Youth and Family Services. Solicitor Bozovich reviewed the agreement and approved it as to form. Motion to approve the agreement by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scotto asked for a motion to approve the School Based Probation Program Agreements with Clearfield and DuBois Area School Districts. Solicitor Bozovich reviewed the agreements and approved them as to form. Motion to execute the agreements by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Bozovich presented an Agreement with Moshannon Valley School District to lease a parcel of property. The property will be utilized to construct a 911 Communications Tower. The lease term is for 20 years and the option of two extensions and quarterly payments of \$400. The location is in Bigler Township and has accessibility from the highway and for electric service. Motion to execute the agreement by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Liquid Fuel allocations were presented and approved for the following: Bloom Township, \$3,024.50; Chest Township, \$3,190.28; by motion of Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously. Approval of the allocation for Mahaffey Borough, \$3,000 was approved by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Chair Scotto, Commissioner Sobel abstained due to conflict; motion carried.

The Commissioner discussed the status of the CARES grants to businesses and non-profits. The goal is to first assist those entities that have not already received any other government assistance. The deadline to apply for funds was August 17, 2020 with 239 businesses and 60 non-profits applying. Unfortunately, after a conference call with DCED it was discovered that only non-profits who fall under a 501C3 or a 5019 status are eligible for the CARES grant funds. The Commissioners said that they hope to notify the applicants within 4-6 weeks.

Solicitors Report

Ms. Bozovich reported that with respect to the federal lawsuit filed by the Republican Party, the Judge issued a stay. This means that the Judge will abstain from any decision on the case pending the outcome of State Law claims, which is what is being addressed through the Democratic lawsuit filed at the State level. If there is no resolution by October 5 on three specific issues, a party may file and ask the Judge to make a decision such as third party delivery of ballots, improper provisional voting and poll watching residency requirement.

The DOS Secretary has filed with the Supreme Court asking that they exercise their Kings Bench Jurisdiction to rule on this case in an expedited manner. At this time there has been no decision on the matter. Answers have been filed on the State suit and have been submitted and thank Director Graham and her staff for their assistance.

Also late yesterday a new Senate Bill was introduced that contains language with provisions to assist that County's specifically with pre-canvassing mail in/absentee ballots prior to Election Day.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Lisa McFadden, Chief Clerk