The regular meeting of the Clearfield County Commissioners was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2020 with Chair Scotto conducting the meeting. The following were in attendance: Commissioners Sobel and Glass; Heather Bozovich, Solicitor; Tom Adamson, Controller; Jessica Shirey, gantdaily.com; Yvonne Lehmann; Lisa McFadden, Chief Clerk.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Commissioners meeting was live streamed at https://youtube.com/channel/UCFb0gMwBAi3HI2Ai8J_bmQ. The press was asked to join via the live stream. The public was not permitted in all County buildings. The buildings have been under lock down since March 20, 2020 – allowing no public access.

Minutes of the previous meeting of April 28, 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, $834,298.53; 911 Fund, $9,002.60; Domestic Relations, $17,316.24; Children Youth & Family Services, $174,641.61. Approval of the bills by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Changes

Nathan Lash, Part-time Community Service/Probation, effective 5/4/20
Jennifer Morarity, Part-time Custodian/Magistrate Nevling, effective 5/10/20

Transfers – Kelly Livergood, Secretary II/Jail to Administrative Assistant/Jail, effective 5/11/20

Separations/Retirements
Jodi Simcox, Director of Nursing/Jail, effective 5/8/20.

Approval of the personnel changes by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment – None received via phone or email

Old Business – None

Chair Scotto opened bids for the McGees Mills Bridge roof replacement project. The following bids were received:
- Glenn O Hawbaker $142,500
- Lycoming Supply $135,881
- Cottles Asphalt Maintenance, Inc. $244,249
- 768Roof $119,140

Motion to award the low bid to 768ROOF upon review by the Solicitor and the Engineer by motion of Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scotto open bids for rehabilitation of Camp Corbly Bridge. The following bids were received:
- Advantage Steel $409,032
- JD Eckman, Inc. $312,670
- Cottles Asphalt Maintenance, Inc. $219,922
- Lycoming Supply $ 80,726
- Glenn O. Hawbaker $176,230

Motion to award the low bid to Lycoming Supply upon review by the Solicitor and the Engineer by motion of Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.
Chair Scotto asked for a motion for approval to utilize Saint Francis School Cafeteria as a temporary polling location for Clearfield Borough – 2nd Ward. The Commissioners received notice from the Housing Authority that we could not utilize the Henry Myers Tower as the polling location due to COVID-19. Election Director Graham contacted Saint Francis and received confirmation that the County could utilize their space. Motion to temporarily relocate the Clearfield – 2nd polling location to the Saint Francis School cafeteria by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scotto presented a polling place lease agreement with Burnside Christian Missionary and Alliance Church. The Burnside Township polling place will be moved from the Burnside Methodist Church temporarily due to fire damage. Approval of the lease agreement by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Lisa Kovalick sent a request to Amendment to Citizen Participation plan for CDBG, HOME and ESG other Special Project Grants or Emergency Declaration and provided the following information:

“With CDBG CARES Act funding coming we need to update our Citizen Participation plan for the CDBG, HOME and ESG Programs. This update will address "Other Special Programs and Emergency Declarations". Our Citizen Participation Plan should ensure this section is in their plan. It allows for opportunities to amend or temporarily revise the citizen participation process in the response to allowances granted by HUD or DCED in the event of new funding with differing requirement or emergency declarations.

This update will meet DCED and HUD guidance in implementing these components of the citizen participation process, for as long as national or local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons, we do not need to hold in-person public hearings but shall provide citizens with notice and a reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than 5 calendar days. Approval of this update is required prior to creating virtual public hearings to fulfill applicable hearing requirements for CDBG, HOME and ESG funds made available under this law. Additionally, for any hearing that is held virtually (skype/zoom/facebook live) the hearing shall provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the grantee’s certifications, timely responses from local officials to all citizen questions and issues, and public access to all questions and responses.

In the event that other federal special programs are awarded to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or an emergency declaration is made that affects the administration of the existing federal programs, that are authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended and administered by DCED, the citizen participation requirements will be followed in accordance with either the statute or regulations set forth for the program or provide HUD with a request for waivers to the citizen participation process in accordance with information provide by HUD. Once the waiver is granted by HUD to the Commonwealth, the special conditions will be passed to its grantees, if necessary, to streamline the citizen participation process in accordance with the regulations in place. Clearfield County must amend their Citizen Participation Plan if the required action is not already covered in their Citizen Participation Plan.

Amendment – 4-2020 - CARES ACT Authorization:

Emergency Declaration Citizen Participation and Expedited Modification Process:
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) allows for a grantee to adopt and use expedited procedures to prepare, propose, modify, or amend its statement of activities to the FY 2019 and FY 2020 grant and new CARES funding related to the use of funding to address emerging COVID-19 response.

As long as national or local health authorities recommend social distancing and limiting public gatherings for public health reasons, Grantees do not need to hold in-person public hearings but “shall provide citizens with notice and a reasonable opportunity to comment of no less than 5 calendar days. A “grantee may create virtual public hearings to fulfill applicable hearing requirements for all grants from funds made available under this law”. Any virtual hearing “shall provide reasonable notification and access for citizens in accordance with the grantees certifications”

Motion to approve the amendment by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scotto read and asked for a motion to Proclaim May as Community Action Month. Approval by motion of Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously.

Chair Scott read and asked for a motion to Proclaim the week of May 6-12 as Nurses’ Week. The Commissioners gave special praise to all nurses for the job they are performing during this COVID-19 pandemic. Approval by motion of Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Liquid Fuel allocation were approved for Ramey Borough, $3,000. Penn Township, $4,617.31; Morris Township, $4,510.89 by motion of Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Sobel; motion carried unanimously. Liquid Fuel allocation was approved for Covington Township, $3,696.08 by motion of Commissioner Glass, seconded by Chair Scotto, Commissioner Sobel abstained due to conflict; motion carried unanimously.

Solicitors Report

Solicitor Bozovich asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of litigation. Motion to enter Executive Session at 10:28 by Commissioner Sobel, seconded by Commissioner Glass; motion carried unanimously.

Motion to return from Executive Session and adjourn the meeting at 10:47 by Commissioner Glass, seconded by Commissioner Scotto; motion carried unanimously.