

October 25, 2011

McKean County Commissioners in regular session assembled on Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 10:00 AM in the Commissioners meeting room. Present were Commissioners Joseph DeMott, Al Pingie, and Judy Church, Chief Clerk, Audrey Irons, and County Solicitor, Dan Hartle. Also present were Judy Ordiway, Fran DeLancey, Martha Knight, and Ted Lutz.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. DeMott, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2011 meeting.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Mr. Pingie – Commented that the maintenance department has started installing the blinds and they look very nice.

Mr. DeMott – Opened the meeting for public comment.

No public comment.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to reject the bid of Peterson Roofing Co., Inc. in the amount of \$111,400.00 for the roofing project for the McKean County Courthouse.

Mr. Pingie – Stated that the bid seemed to rather high for the amount of work that has to be done.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to adopt the following resolution as presented by the McKean County Election Board.

RESOLUTION 21 OF 2011

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MACHINE INSPECTORS TO SERVE DURING THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION- November 8th, 2011

WHEREAS, the McKean County Board of Elections is, pursuant to 25 P.S. §2642 (c), comprised of the designated appointees by the Court of Common Pleas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 25 P.S. §2674, the County Board of Elections shall, prior to each primary and election, appoint for each additional voting machine to be used in such district, one qualified registered elector of the county to serve as machine inspector therein for such primary or election.

WHEREAS, the list of individuals listed on “Exhibit A” have received election officer training and are willing to serve in this capacity;

WHEREAS, the McKean County Board of Elections, desire to appoint the individuals, listed on “Exhibit A”, as Machine Inspectors for the Municipal Election scheduled on November 8th, 2011.

NOW THEREFORE, this 25th day of October, 2011, the McKean County Election Board RESOLVES and enacts as follows:

1. The individuals listed on “Exhibit A” are appointed as Machine Inspectors to serve in this capacity during the Municipal Election- November 8th, 2011.

2. The Director of Elections of McKean County is to provide training necessary for the appointed Machine Inspectors to carry out their duties.

“EXHIBIT A”

MACHINE INSPECTORS

Municipal Election-November 8th, 2011

**Annin Township
Bradford City-2nd Ward**

**Bradford City-3rd Ward-1st District
Bradford City-3rd Ward-2nd District
Bradford City-4th Ward
Bradford City-6th Ward-1st District
Bradford City-6th Ward-2nd District
Bradford Township-1st District
Bradford Township-2nd District**

**Bradford Township-3rd District
Ceres Township
Eldred Borough
Eldred Township
Foster Township-1st District
Foster Township-2nd District
Foster Township-3rd District**

**Foster Township-4th District
Hamilton Township
Hamlin Township-1st District
Hamlin Township-2nd District
Kane Borough-1st Ward
Kane Borough-2nd Ward
Kane Borough-3rd Ward
Kane Borough-4th Ward
Keating Township-1st District
Keating Township-2nd District**

**Keating Township-3rd District
Lewis Run Borough
Liberty Township
Mount Jewett Borough
Norwich Township
Otto Township-2nd District
Port Allegany Borough-1st District
Port Allegany Borough-2nd District
Sergeant Township
Smethport Borough
Wetmore Township**

Cathy Causer, 555 Long Hollow, Turtlepoint
Susan Niegowski, 285 Congress St., Bradford
Joe Palagonia, 149 South Ave., Bradford
Anthony Comilla, 24 Brown Ave., Bradford
Sally Mangel, 56 Fista Circle, Bradford
Margaret Lent, 162 Williams St., Bradford
Linda Dent, 23 Glenwood Ave., Bradford
John Baxter, 53 Cornen St., Bradford
Jean Hvizdzak, 187 Minard Run, Bradford
Linda Slike, 650 W. Washington St., Bradford
Barbara Smead, 925 W. Washington St., Bradford
Bill Walb, 78 Southgate Rd., Bradford
Carol Taylor, 172 Coons Crossing Rd., Shinglehouse
Geraldine Freer, 32 Mechanic St., Eldred
Norman King, 206 Barden Brook Rd., Eldred
Maureen Watson, 425 Derrick Rd., Bradford
Janet Uhl, 130 Dallas Rd., Bradford
James L. Brown, 66 Derrick Rd., Bradford
June Brown, 66 Derrick Rd., Bradford
Winona Yeager, 1578 S. Kendall Ave., Bradford
Mitzi Lindquist, Ludlow
Sara Riel, 709 Lindholm Rd., Kane
Jennifer Morgan, 462 Campbelltown Rd., Kane
Julie Ewing, 9 S. Tionesta Ave., Kane
Tammy Hartzell, 313 Greeves St., Kane
Ron Swanson, 633 Wood St., Kane
Gary Schul, 315 Janeway St., Kane
Beverly Mulauski, 1308 Water St. Ext., Smethport
Richard Curtis Tanner, 2860 E. Valley Rd., Smethport
Judy Graves, 69 Spring St., Box 123, Gifford
Bonnie Lowe, 7 Als Lane, Mount Jewett
Gertrude Whipkey, 183 Pleasant St., Port Allegany
Patricia Keesler, 15 Poplar St., Mount Jewett
Bertha Weismiller, 90 Springs Run Rd., Crosby
Marilee Nichols, 6 School St., Rixford
Marilyn Hansen, 430 Arnold Ave., Port Allegany
Sue Roys, 62 Volney St., Port Allegany
Veronica Silfies, 311 Silfies Lane, Mount Jewett
Rebecca Funk, 705 W. King St., Smethport
Marilyn Blackmore, 1214 Chemical Works Rd., Kane
Linda Ackley, 17274 RTE 6, Kane

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Mrs. Irons – It was noted that bids were supposed to be opened at this time for furniture for the Adult Probation Office, but no bids were received.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve payment of the following invoices:

1. Northwest Engineering, Inc. - \$12,200.00 – representing payment for professional services rendered for the Galico Bridge Replacement Project for the period ending October 16, 2011 – Galico Bridge Project Fund.
2. YWCA - \$3,686.00 – representing the October payment for the Homeless Assistance Program they administer for the county – Grants Public Welfare Fund.
3. Area Transportation Authority - \$13,826.75 – representing payment for a portion of their budget allotment for October 1 through December 31, 2011.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve the county aid applications for the following municipalities for the year 2011.

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| 1. Hamilton Township | \$2,127.00 |
| 2. Hamlin Township | \$3,213.00 |
| 3. Keating Township | \$9,972.00 |
| 4. Otto Township | \$4,450.00 |

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to accept the following offers for purchasing property from the McKean County Repository for unsold property.

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| 1. Michael Madore | \$250.00 | Vacant Lot - .06 acres of land at 115 E. Main Street, Bradford, Pa. |
| 2. Jeff Barthlomew | \$250.00 | Vacant Lot - .06 acres of land at 2 Cornen Street, Bradford, Pa. |
| 3. Jeff Barthlomew | \$250.00 | Vacant Lot - .08 acres of land at 2 Cornen Street, Bradford, Pa. |
| 4. Jason Eastman | \$855.55 | Vacant Lot - .08 acres of land at 506 Y Street, Kane, Pa. |

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to enter into a Program Management Agreement for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). This is the successor agreement that the Department of Agriculture has completed making revisions on and the agreement will be effective from January 1, 2012 through September 30, 2016.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to execute the Justice Assistance Grant Local Jurisdiction Waiver for the program. The waiver allows the council to use their grant funds to pay for each Youth Level of Service (YLS) assessment they do instead of giving the county the money and then asking for it back.

Mr. DeMott – The Justice Assistance Grant funds are intended to be awarded to units of local government with the exception being that they can be awarded to other entities as long as the unit of local government that will benefit from the grant activities endorses the use of the funding. That endorsement is given in the form of a waiver meaning that the unit of local government, in this case the County that will be participating in the Youth Level of Service risk need assessment project (YLS), believes that the project will provide a direct local benefit. The Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers will be receiving the JAG funds to support the use of the YLS in individual counties and since the Council is not a unit of local government, the waiver must be signed by each of the counties that will be participating.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to enter into a prison detention agreement with Tioga County for the McKean County Jail.

Mr. DeMott – Mentioned they are basically raising the basic daily rate from \$55.00 to \$60.00.

Mr. Pingie – Commented that the county only has about seven inmates housed outside the county right now – we have brought back at least 20 that were housed in other county jails so that will save us \$60.00 a day per inmate.

Mr. DeMott – Commented that most of the inmates housed outside the county right now are women and they are being housed in Warren County.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for Act 22 services with The Prison Inmate Medical Cost Containment Program (PIMCC) for the McKean County Jail.

Mr. DeMott – Explained that Act 22 limits the amount that health care providers can charge the counties for services for inmates for hospitalization – the counties will be billed at the Medicare rate. The County Commissioners Association through a subsidiary called PIMCC is going to administer this program – they are going to adjudicate and pay the claims and we will be establishing an escrow account and then reimbursing that account as payments are made.

Martha Knight – Is this strictly for prisoners?

Mr. DeMott – Yes.

Ms. Knight – Is this new?

Mr. DeMott – The act went into effect on July 1, 2011 – we will be saving the hospitalization costs because it will be billed now at the Medicare rate rather than the walk in case rate for services when inmates are hospitalized.

Ms. Knight – Is this just for the inmates at the McKean County Jail or does it include the inmates that are housed outside the county?

Mr. DeMott – It covers all McKean County inmates whether they are housed in our jail or housed in a jail in another county. This will save the county a considerable amount of money.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to approve a grant application between the Potato Creek Trail Association and McKean County. The grant falls under the guidelines of the County’s Master Plan of the Poor Farm/McKean County Fairground and trail system. The grant application has been approved by North Central pending formal agreement between the Potato Creek Trail Association and McKean County.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Pingie, seconded by Mrs. Church, to appoint Michael Alfieri to the Headwaters Charible Trust Board for a 3 year term.

Mr. DeMott – Mentioned that Mark Caldwell has served as the McKean County Representative on the Board for 3 years and has resigned his position effective May 1, 2011 and feels that his replacement should be an attorney.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Mr. DeMott – Opened the meeting for public comment.

Ms. Knight – The application you approved for the Potato Creek Trail Association – you are just endorsing their application - are there any county funds involved in the funding?

Mr. DeMott – No, the trail portion of it will actually go through county property – up the old railroad grade on the county farm property and eventually the trail association is going to request an easement from the county to use that property – they want a formal agreement where they have permission so they could use that property and so that is something that we will be working on over the next several months – there are other people that are effected by that.

Ms. Knight – What is the status of the budget process?

Mr. DeMott – Dustin is working on it – he is gathering information from the different departments. One issue we have is the uncertainty about the level of state funding and how that will affect our various departments. We did get good news from our health insurance company – we have a very small increase in our health insurance costs so that is on the positive side. It will be interesting to see how the changes in the jail will affect their budget and the Sheriff’s budget. We will have more inmates housed in our own facility which will cause some increase in their operating costs, but we should have a dramatic decrease in what we have been paying to house inmates in other county jails. Overall the budget is a work in progress – we are working on it.

Mr. Pingie – We are not planning on selling any county assets to balance the budget.

Ms. Knight – Is there an office in the courthouse where I can get a good picture of the new blinds?

Mr. Pingie – They are currently working in the back wing – in the Prothonotary and Recorder of Deeds offices.

Ms. Knight – How many blinds are you replacing?

Mr. Pingie – Between 180 and 190.

Ms. Knight – Do you know how much money was saved by purchasing the blinds and installing them in house?

Mr. DeMott – Not right off – we would have to look that up – but it was a significant amount of money.

Mr. Pingie – Hopefully, by the end of the year we should have a better feel for our energy savings with all the improvement that we have made in the courthouse.

Ms. Knight – What is the next step in the roofing project?

Mr. DeMott – We will have to wait until spring to re-bid the project and hopefully we will get more contractors to bid on it and get better pricing. We are going to rubber coat some areas where there has been some infiltration – we are hoping that will eliminate leakage through the winter and we will use some heat tape in the valleys will help protect the ice built up, but eventually we will need to carry out this project.

Ms. Knight – Do you have ceiling damage?

Mr. DeMott – Yes, there was significant damage in the Judges Office.

Ms. Knight – Do you have a handle on the new central court system as to transportation costs or other kinds of costs?

Mr. Pingie – Just what we are being told by the Sheriff. Last week was the first session – transportation of the inmates is always a problem – I spoke with Sheriff Mason last week and he said they will need some time to see how things work and go from there.

Mr. DeMott – This should actually be a great benefit to the municipalities – just looking at my experience from Port Allegany - when somebody would have a preliminary hearing we would either have to send the officer on duty or we would have to call out the original arresting officer who then made overtime or call out time so it is going to save money for the municipalities because they will only have to send the leading officer in those cases where they are going to require their testimony. It will be the same thing for witnesses – before they had to round up all the people up for the preliminary hearing and if the defendant decided to waive their hearing or plea, then those people wouldn't have had to show up and miss work, etc.

Ms. Knight – When did the new central court start?

Mr. DeMott – This week.

Mrs. Church – They had a test run last Thursday.

Ms. Knight – Asked how the process works?

Mr. DeMott – The Judge is trying to expedite the process for the defendants to get their cases handled faster – the Judge would be able to explain the process to you better. The District Magistrates are going to take turns in presiding over the central court.

Ms. Knight – Is Central Court something that is new to counties?

Mr. DeMott – Central Court has taken off recently – there are not a lot of counties that don't have a central court system.

Ms. Knight – Will Central Court affect the civil cases?

Mr. DeMott – No.

Mr. Pingie – Wanted to express the Commissioners condolences to Mike Kennedy's family and thank him for his service.

Moved by Mrs. Church, seconded by Mr. Pingie, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote on the above resolution, DeMott – yes. Pingie – yes. Church – yes. Three – yeas. No – nays. Carried.

Chief Clerk