

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION
May 13, 2019

**Present at the meeting were
Commissioners:**

Brenda K. Benner-Chairman
Paul L. Rudy Jr.-Vice-Chairman - Absent
Stephen C. Naylor- Secretary
William R. Bunt- Solicitor
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public: Brenda Albright, Ed Albright, Karen Anderson, Harva Owings Baughman, Miriam Briscoe, Frank Campbell, Mary Colledge, Bonnie Delancey, Gary Eby, Jan Gibboney, Steve Hile, Sarah Keller, Bill Lyons, Dave Magee, Rita Metcalf, Robert Nulton, Rich Pluta, Craig Sheaffer, Marty Smith, Randy Waggoner, Wendy Welfley, Melanie Wertz, Joy Zerance

Commissioner Benner opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 13, 2019 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Public Comments: Miriam Briscoe apologized to Commissioner Naylor for interrupting him in a previous meeting. She also expressed her appreciation to those that voice concerns during the Commissioners' Meeting regardless if their view is popular or not.

Dave Magee commented that the counties across the state should be taking a closer look at MS4 and become more involved. He noted that some municipalities and townships on the east side of the Susquehanna river are now imposing a MS4 licensing fees which results in fees to farmers.

Karen Anderson asked if the Office Manager item on the agenda was due to a retirement or resignation. She also questioned if it was included in last year's budget.

Mary Colledge commented that she thought the new software being implemented in the Sheriff's Office meant that no additional employees would be needed.

Sheriff Steve Hile stated that his office is down in positions and during his budget proposal he had initially requested three positions. He commented that even with the new software, he still needs employees to process the workload. The Sheriff also mentioned that the new Office Manager position would allow him to get a deputy back as she would no longer be in the office.

Karen Anderson stated that her concern was why the Office Manager position was not included in the budget. She commented that the addition of the new position is adding to the county deficit and demonstrates poor planning.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Naylor made a motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2019. Commissioner Benner seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Warrant List: Commissioner Naylor made a motion to approve the warrant list for the week of May 13th for the total amount of \$140,791.48. Commissioner Benner seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Naylor made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-04 to appoint the Chief Clerk as Perry County's Section 504 Compliance Officer. Commissioner Benner seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Naylor made a motion to approve the PennDOT Local Delivery Process for the Center Road Bridge improvement project, which would allow PennDOT to administer and manage the project. Commissioner Benner seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Employee Status: Agenda item #7 to approve the appointment of Rita Metcalf to the position of Office Manager in the Sheriff's Office at an hourly rate of \$17.11 effective May 13, 2019 did not receive a motion. No action was taken.

Solicitors Report: Nothing that required action.

Public Comments: Miriam Briscoe commented on the lack of law enforcement support in boroughs and stated that more authority should be given to the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Hile commented that the Office Manager position was planned and he wanted it included in the budget. He also informed Miriam Briscoe that if a borough needs assistance to reach out to the Sheriff's Office.

Joy Zerance stated that both she and Dave Hammar had received approval to move forward with the Office Manager position hiring process, which would allow her to move out of the office and back to performing deputy duties. She commented that the hiring process was followed and voiced frustration that they are now not permitted to hire the selected candidate.

Solicitor Bunt stated that the Salary Board did vote to create the position and authorized the Sheriff's Office to proceed with hiring for the Office Manager position. Mr. Bunt also commented that an Executive Session could be taken to discuss a Robert's Rules of Order issue.

Karen Anderson clarified that her previous comment regarding the Office Manager position in the Sheriff's Office was specifically referring to the lack of budget planning. She also stated that Executive Sessions are for personnel or legal issues.

Rita Metcalf questioned where the decision to not move forward with hiring her as the Office Manager in the Sheriff's Office leaves her. She stated that the decision is denying her a promotion.

Harva Owings Baughman questioned if the decision was a Section 19 rights issue.

Comments from Press: None

Commissioner Naylor made a motion to adjourn at 10:17 a.m. Commissioner Benner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Stephen C. Naylor, Secretary