

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION
November 16, 2020

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

Brian S. Allen - Chairman
Gary R. Eby – Vice-Chairman
Brenda L. Watson – Secretary
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk
William R. Bunt – Solicitor

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public via Phone/Onsite: Karen Anderson, Alane Balchunas, Karen Barclay, Frank Campbell, Donna Cohick, Gene Cohick, Donna Ellenberger, Charles Freet, Rich Fultz, Kristie Gantt, John Holman, Sarah Keller, Dave Magee, John McTernan, Andy Pepper, Rich Pluta, Beverly Reifsnnyder, Cindy Roney, Ralph Rudy, Jim Scott, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Melanie Wertz, and Greg Wirth

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on November 16, 2020 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence dedicated to Anne Teal. The meeting was conducted via telephone conference and in person at the Extension Office Meeting Room. The meeting was recorded by the County and John Holman.

Public Comments: Dave Magee expressed his sympathy regarding the passing of employee, Anne Teal.

Karen Anderson acknowledged that the County handled the election extremely well. She thanked Solicitor Bunt for the job he did organizing the process and stated that she was treated with respect.

John McTernan stated that Commissioner Eby, at a previous meeting, said he had met with Solicitor Bunt and Mr. Wirth regarding the complaint he filed alleging the violation of rights of the elderly. He commented that the complaint had not yet been resolved. He asked Solicitor Bunt if he had advised the Commissioner and Mr. Wirth to follow AAA laws. Mr. McTernan stated that Solicitor Bunt should be fired as he had not advised Commissioner Eby or Mr. Wirth accurately. He said that he would be filing with the Attorney General regarding the issue and commented that this was a case of corruption. He again asked that Solicitor Bunt be fired. Mr. McTernan said he would submit the report to the Bar to have Solicitor Bunt's license removed.

Donna Ellenberger stated that she has not been living in her home for the past five years. She said that she came from a military family and represented the United States in Europe. Ms. Ellenberger commented that she had her awards with her and they were in the back of the room. She said she would not sell her home. She stated that the seniors in Perry County need protection. She said individuals were driving around at 2:00 a.m., her shoe heels were cut off, and her clothes and money were taken from her home. Ms. Ellenberger again stated she could not live in her home due to the lack of protection.

John Holman said he wanted to focus on the elder abuse complaint letter submitted on August 31st. He asked if anyone else was involved in the conversation or decision to not act on the complaint. He asked Commissioner Watson if she was aware of the decision to not act on the complaint. Mr. Holman said that state and federal laws were violated. He stated that Mr. McTernan would be writing up the report of investigation and it would be submitted to the state and federal government. He commented that the Commissioners did not understand the seriousness of the issue and he said senior citizens' civil rights

were violated. He said he did not understand how the determination was made to not act on the complaint and asked what process was used to make the determination.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Solicitor Bunt opened and read bids for fuel oil and propane services for 2021. The following bids were received:

- W.C. Eshenaur & Son Inc. – #2 Fuel Oil: \$1.499 per gallon
Propane: \$1.059 per gallon
- Ferrellgas, LP – Propane: \$1.272 per gallon
- Swenson Fuels, Inc. – Propane: \$1.19 per gallon
#2 Fuel Oil: \$1.49 per gallon
- Koppys Propane Inc. – Propane: \$1.089 per gallon
#2 Fuel Oil: \$1.429 per gallon
- Heller’s Gas Inc – Propane: \$1.07 per gallon

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the rental relief program allotments. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Landlord	Amount
Melissa McNaughton	\$1,875
Bradlee Diapalo	\$1,500
Chad Bowersox	\$3,000

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Child Welfare Education for Leadership (CWEL) Agreement for Children & Youth Services employee, Jean Goodnack. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor’s Report: None

Public Comments: John McTernan asked Commissioner Eby if Solicitor Bunt had provided the law during a meeting about the complaint, and if he had been advised to disregard the complaint due to the date. Mr. McTernan asked if Mr. Wirth had advised that the law should be followed. He asked if Commissioner Eby had acted alone to kill the complaint. He stated that the law was violated and he asked Commissioner Eby to resign. He said it was a conspiracy by Perry County against the elderly.

John Holman said he concurred with Mr. McTernan and said that laws protecting the elderly were not being followed in Perry County. He commented that it appeared that multiple people had entered into a conspiracy to deny the elderly their civil rights. Mr. Holman asked that Commissioner Eby resign, and Solicitor Bunt and Mr. Wirth be terminated. He said the actions the Board takes moving forward would either be favorable or unfavorable in the report they were going to submit to the state and federal governments.

Donna Ellenberger stated that she understands all the people that have fought and died for the laws that protect the weak of society. She said many people are being targeted. Ms. Ellenberger stated that she is also a victim and laws should not be taken lightly. She said no crimes in Perry County are solved.

Jim Scott, Director of Veterans' Affairs, commented on the flag folding presentation he did at the Perry Valley Grange meeting. He said they were recognizing WWII veterans. Mr. Scott said it was a pleasure working in a County where the 3,700 veterans are treated with respect.

Comments from Press: None

Commissioner Watson thanked all the volunteers who came in to help during Election Week.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Brenda L. Watson, Secretary