

Commissioners:

R. JACK MCKERNAN
Chairman

TONY R. MUSSARE
Vice Chairman

RICHARD MIRABITO
Secretary



MATTHEW A. McDERMOTT
*Director of Administration
and Chief Clerk*

J. DAVID SMITH
Solicitor

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**Minutes of the Meeting of
September 6, 2018
Board Room, Executive Plaza
Pine Street, Williamsport**

Commissioner McKernan - Present
Commissioner Mussare - Present
Commissioner Mirabito - Present

Solicitor Smith - Present

1.0 OPERATIONS

1.1 CONVENE COMMISSIONERS MEETING. Mr. McKernan convened the Commissioners Meeting 10:04 a.m.

1.2 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS. A motion by Mr. Mirabito and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved the minutes of the previous meeting as they are recorded.

1.3 RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY). Mr. McKernan opened the floor to public comment on agenda items only, and none were received.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS

2.1 APPROVE 2018 CONTRACT WITH SIEMENS HEALTHCARE DIAGNOSTICS INC. A motion by Mr. Mirabito and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), for urinalysis machine service parts and supplies as needed in the amount of \$25,000.

2.2 APPROVE CASALE AND BONNER MASTER LEASE RENEWAL. A motion by Mr. Mussare and seconded by Mr. Mirabito and passed (3-0).

June 1, 2018

2.3 APPROVE UPDATE TO TDA. A motion by Mr. Mirabito and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved:
District Attorney – Addition of one (1) Assistant District Attorney.

Commissioners- Create a part time Clerk I pay grade 2
Department of Public Safety – Change full time Clerk III to part time Clerk III, pay grade 4.

2.4 APPROVE. A motion by Mr. Mussare and seconded by Mr. Mirabito and passed (3-0), approved.

Mr. McKernan recessed the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:18 a.m.

3.0 SALARY BOARD

3.1 CONVENE SALARY BOARD. Mr. McKernan convened the Salary Board at 10:18 a.m. Deputy Controller Nicki Brelsford, District Attorney Ken Osokow, were present. Mr. Osokow as an elected official and having a position on the Salary Board was a voting member.

3.2 APPROVE UPDATE TO THE 2018 SALARY BOARD.
District Attorney – Addition of one (1) Assistant District Attorney.
Commissioners' Office – Create a part time Clerk I pay grade 2.
Department of Public Safety – Change full time Clerk III to part time Clerk III, pay grade 4.

A motion by Mr. Osokow and seconded by Mr. Mirabito and passed (3-1), approved with Deputy Controller Nicki Brelsford casting a no vote.

3.4 ADJOURN SALARY BOARD. A motion by Mr. Mussare and seconded by Mr. Mirabito and passed (3-0), adjourned the Board of Salary Board at 10:25 a.m.

Mr. McKernan reconvened the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:25 a.m.

5.0 REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS.

5.1 Present 10 year Service Pin to Detective William Weber in the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Osokow stated that Mr. Weber is a pleasure to work with. His leadership skills are valuable to the District Attorney's office. Mr. Mussare stated that Mr. Weber is fair and trustworthy member of the community and "the constituents also respect you". Mr. McKernan thanked him for his service. Mr. Mirabito admired Mr. Weber's work now and prior to his coming to Lycoming County, he hopes there are many more years to come as an employee of the County.

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT. Mr. McKernan opened the floor to commissioner comment and the following were received:

Mr. Mussare explained as the election draws closer, he wants to understand what is on the City of Williamsport ballot. “Many Williamsport citizens do not understand, myself included, this ballot. It is confusing. They do not understand, not voting is also a vote.” “If you don’t vote, it is a vote against the current system.” People need more clarity. I am suggesting Forrest Lehman of Voter Services and his solicitor hold a town hall meeting to answer questions from the public. We need more clarity. Mr. Mussare

Mr. McKernan- “I share the same interest in learning the options Williamsport voters have.” “There should be a single sheet for simplicity.” “I support people going to the polls educated”.

Mr. Mirabito stated his concerns that partisan politics may spill over into the town hall meeting and suggested that thought should be put into selecting the venue and who is hosting the town hall meeting. “We don’t need a law suit as a County”. All commissioners expressed not wanting to encounter lawsuits with educating the public on the Williamsport ballot and will check with solicitors on how to proceed further.

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT. Mr. McKernan opened the floor to public comment and the following were received:

Chad Riley – Cogan House Township – Mr. Riley requested further explanation of the additional Assistant District Attorney. He also voiced his concerns for “all of these trials”, and their need for more employees and the salaries continuing to increase each year.

Mr. Mirabito stated that he was glad that Mr. Riley asked the question, saying that he too, shared his reservations. The DA’s office is finding that it is more effective to do the work in house than have a specifically designated attorney work solely in prosecuting juvenile cases. It was a joint discussion with the DA’s office and Juvenile Probation to have more flexibility, latitude with cases and eliminate the \$40K contract position that was designated solely for juvenile cases.

Mr. Mussare explained, “We as a county have seven murder trials next year, it is important to have the flexibility of an in-house attorney prepared to prosecute a variety of cases, to fill in the gaps and to help reduce deposition times.

Mr. McKernan- “We have not lost sight of the idea of reducing the number of positions overall as attrition allows.” “Savings of the \$40K contract and the \$35K clerical position not being filled due to a retirement, should balance out the \$52,000 salary planned for the new assistant district attorney. A new review will be made in the months to come.

Mr. Mussare speaking on Dylan Perry's addition to the Commissioners' office. "He has worked the entire summer for \$75.00 and he returns to college in December". "He is currently in the midst of several projects the commissioners would like to see completed." When he returns in December, they have no intention of filling the part time "floater" position, and will leave it open for the Commissioner's office or any other department in need of clerical work or odd jobs as needed.

8.0 NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING. Mr. McKernan announced the next regularly scheduled meeting as a work session on Tuesday, June 10, 2018.

9.0 ADJOURN COMMISSIONERS' MEETING. A motion by Mr. Mussare and seconded by Mr. Mirabito and passed (3-0), adjourned the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:32 a.m.