

COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE  
August 23, 2016

The regular meeting of the Jefferson County Commissioners was called to order on August 23, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in the large conference room, Jefferson Place, Brookville, PA. Members present were John D. Matson, Herbert L. Bullers, Jr. and Jeffrey E. Pisarcik. Also attending were several county officials, and members of the press and public.

Motion by Mr. Bullers, second by Mr. Pisarcik to approve the minutes of the meeting dated August 10, 2016 as presented. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.

Motion by Mr. Pisarcik, second by Mr. Bullers to approve invoices in the amount of \$913,182.21 for the period August 10, through August 23, 2016. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.

Motion by Mr. Pisarcik, second by Mr. Bullers to approve pending invoices in the amount of \$100,857.89. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.

Motion by Mr. Bullers, second by Mr. Pisarcik that the actual gross payroll in the amount of \$225,500.85 be approved for payment for the period July 23, through August 6, 2016. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.

Motion by Mr. Bullers, second by Mr. Pisarcik that the tentative gross payroll in the amount of \$224,800.00 be approved for payment for the period August 7, through August 20, 2016. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.

At this time, Deb Wilson, President of the Jefferson County Township Officers Association asked the Commissioners to draw a name for a \$500 scholarship for an eligible student who lives in any one of the townships. Herb Bullers pulled the lucky name. Danielle VanSteenberg of Clover Township was chosen.

Tracy Zents, Director of the Department of Emergency Services was on hand for a bid opening for proposals to prepare the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. The following proposals were received.

Mt. View Planning, Willsboro NY	\$30,000
MCM Consulting, St. Marys PA	\$32,957

Proposals will be turned over to a panel of reviewers to go over each proposal and will make a recommendation back to the Commissioners.

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Motion by Mr. Pisarcik, second by Mr. Bullers to adjourn. Mr. Matson voted yes, Mr. Bullers voted yes and Mr. Pisarcik voted yes.



John D. Matson, Chairman



Herbert L. Bullers, Jr.



Jeffrey E. Pisarcik

ATTEST:



Karen Lupone, Chief Clerk

JEFFERSON COUNTY INVOICE APPROVAL  
08/10/16 THROUGH 08/23/16

Vendor	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount
<b>Fund 10 - GENERAL FUND</b>		
2728 - JEFFERSON COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING	HSDF-2015/2016	11,100.00
3528 - TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC (NEW WORLD SYSTEMS)	911-CAD SYSTEM MAINT 9/1/16-8/31/17	37,260.00
3528 - TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC (NEW WORLD SYSTEMS)	ACCT/CAPTL-ESUITES SOFTWARE/MAINT	19,053.00
3560 - NORTHWEST PA GREAT OUTDOORS	HOTEL TAX-2QTR 2016	33,391.59
3639 - PA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE-SIT ACH	SIT STATE INCOME TAX	6,460.92
3726 - PENN STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	CO.APPROPRIATION AUGUST 2016	5,313.00
4165 - S&T BANK - 2015 NOTE	2015 NOTE-INTEREST AUGUST 2016 #02000288841	6,184.49
5092 - UNITED STATES TREASURY ACH	FIT/FICA	53,665.04
5269 - PCN-PITTSBURGH COMPANIES NORTH INC.	JAIL-MEALS 6/18/16-6/30/16	13,545.02
6318 - ENDERS PLUMBING & HEATING CO.	JAIL RENOVATION-PLUMBING CONTRACT THRU 7/31/16	125,849.25
6358 - COX AND KANYUCK ELECTRIC, LLC	JAIL RENOVATION-ELECTRIC CONTRACT THRU 7/22/16	238,995.00
7864 - ARCON CONTRACTING, INC.	JAIL RENOVATION-GENERAL CONTRACT THRU 7/30/16	148,588.20
7899 - HRANEC SHEET METAL	JAIL RENOVATION-HVAC CONTRACT THRU 7/31/16	29,861.78
C&Y EXPENDITURES	C&Y-ADOPT/BOARD/SPLC JULY 2016	81,999.60
MISCELLANEOUS	UNDER \$5,000	85,038.82
<b>Fund 10 - GENERAL FUND Totals</b>		<u>\$896,305.71</u>
 <b>Fund 35 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<b>Account 1010-350 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. CDBG</b>		
6056 - DD35 SYKESVILLE BOROUGH	ARC REIMB-SYKES ST WTR LINE RELOCATION PROJECT/FINAL	6,495.00
5617 - DD35 GWIN, DOBSON & FOREMAN, INC.	REY/WORTH ST SANITARY SEWER REPL INV #3 2014 CDBG	5,000.00
<b>Account 1010-350 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. CDBG Totals</b>		<u>\$11,495.00</u>
 <b>Account 1010-352 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. HOME</b>		
5968 - DD35 BENNETT'S HEATING & AC	2011 HOME-EM/HEATING FNL PYMT	4,835.00
6655 - DD35 CDR CONTRACTING	2011 HOME-LBP CLEARANCE/WMS	295.00
<b>Account 1010-352 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. HOME Totals</b>		<u>\$5,130.00</u>
 <b>Account 1010-355 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. REVOLVING ACCT</b>		
5485 - DD35 PUNXSUTAWNEY SPIRIT	2016 REVOLV - ADVERTISING-HOME PUBLIC HEARING	251.50
<b>Account 1010-355 - CASH - CHECKING ACCT. REVOLVING ACCT Totals</b>		<u>\$251.50</u>
<b>Fund 35 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Totals</b>		<u>\$16,876.50</u>
 <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<u><u>\$913,182.21</u></u>
 <b>PENDING INVOICES</b>		 100,857.89



OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
JEFFERSON COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS

John D. Matson, Chairman  
Herbert L. Bullers, Jr.  
Jeffrey E. Pisarcik

CHIEF CLERK  
Karen L. Lupone

SOLICITOR  
C.J. Zwick

FOR IMMEDIATE  
NEWS RELEASE:

Jefferson County is calling for increased awareness, staffing and funding for county children and youth agencies which conduct the primary, critical services for abused and neglected children, as well as child abuse investigations.

Jack Matson, Jefferson County commissioner stated, "The child welfare system is at a crisis point due to extremely high caseload ratios, unrealistic demands, and the lack of timely, appropriate funding from the state. These factors, combined with a 30 to 100 percent increase in cases, are preventing Pennsylvania children and families in critical need from obtaining the care they deserve. Additionally, due to funding restraints, counties have not been permitted to reopen their child welfare budgets to add needed staff when the amendments to the Child Protective Services Law went into effect in 2015. This resulted in understaffing and problems with retention as overworked caseworkers left the system. Related factors include overwhelming paperwork, the single most cited reason for caseworker job dissatisfaction, and burn-out of staff due to unrealistic expectations. The implementation of the Child Welfare Information Solution, the statewide data base that transmits referrals to the counties, has substantially increased the amount of time it takes for staff to send the results of investigations to DHS. What previously took mere minutes can now result in hours of trying to ascertain why the system won't accept it. Unfortunately, this all results in greatly decreased time available for caseworkers to work with families and children.

"The sad irony is that caseworkers are dedicated to the families they serve; performing thankless jobs at the expense of their personal lives and families, yet they continue to work in a system consumed with increasing problems," according to Jack Matson, Jefferson County commissioner.

Matson stated, "Counties repeatedly have sought an increase in the financial match for child welfare staff and adequate funding for human services. While we applaud the State Department of Human Services (DHS) for regularly increasing staffing to ChildLine, the organization that receives initial reports, we would be remiss if we did not note that the continuing stagnation in state funding has prevented counties from doing the same."

"Too often, child welfare mandates are placed on the counties without any means to pay for them," Jack Matson said. "It is imperative that that changes to the laws affecting child welfare be accompanied with supplemental appropriations for all who must deal with the impacts, at the time the mandates go into effect. The timing for implementing mandates also must be more mindful of the child welfare budgeting cycle so the counties who actually do the work can assure adequate staffing to protect the children of the Commonwealth."

To read more about counties' priorities on child welfare and human services funding, go to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania's webpage, [www.pacounties.org](http://www.pacounties.org), and click 2016 Legislative Priorities.

