

The regular meeting of the Tioga County Commissioners was called to order today at 10:00 a.m. at the Tioga County Courthouse with the following members present: Erick J. Coolidge, Mark L. Hamilton, and Roger C. Bunn. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Casey Zuchowski, Kera Hackett, Sara Rice, Deb Crawford, Marc Rice, Betsy Craig, Scott Zubek, Tim Cleveland, Eric Redell, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments (agenda items) – None

For information –

Appoint poll workers

- Per Purdon's section 2657(c), effective May 12, 2020, the Tioga County Board of Elections authorizes the Director of Elections to appoint poll workers as needed, at county polling locations that have vacancies, to serve during the 2020 Primary election on June 2, 2020.

Reallocate ESG funds

- In 2018, via Resolution R-8-18, the Tioga County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the Tioga County Homeless Initiative (TCHI), submitted to the PA DCED, an Emergency Solutions Grant Program application. An award of \$50,000 was granted and the funds are being used by the TCHI to assist the homeless population. It has since been determined by DCED that a reallocation of the funds could be better served in the following areas within the Rapid Re-Housing program: \$3,355.46 in Financial Assistance, \$2,000 in Rental Assistance, and \$730.00 in Services.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of March 10, 2020.

Resign –
K. Fritz
S. Holton

For information, the following individuals have resigned / retired:

Resigned – Katie Fritz, LPN, Tioga County Prison, effective 3/18/20
Sara Holton, Caseworker, Family Services, effective 3/17/20

Retire –
B. Roupp

Retired – Bonnie Roupp, Judicial Line Staff, effective 7/31/20

Hire L.
Schumacher

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the hire of Laura Schumacher, Clerk, Assessment Office, \$11.00/hr. with benefits.

Hire R.
Cleveland

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the hire of Rachael Cleveland, part-time Corrections Officer, Tioga County Prison, \$13.81/hr., no benefits.

Promote E.
Redell

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the promotion of J. Eric Redell to IT Director, \$55,000/yr., effective 4/4/20.

Job declination
A.Robbins

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to accept a job offer declination from Adam Robbins for a Maintenance Worker 2 position.

Termination J.
Fiori

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the termination of Jason Fiori, Caseworker 1, Family Services, effective 5/7/20.

Furlough -
H. Baker
K.Aumick

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the furlough of the following employees, due to the Coronavirus pandemic:

Hannah Baker, effective 3/22/20
Kaye Aumick, voluntarily furloughed, effective 3/24/20

Furlough –
K.Nowak
C.Kriner
C.Stanley
J.Winkler
M.Briggs

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the furlough of the following full-time employees, due to the reorganization of the Residential Program, and have transitioned to SAM, Inc., effective 4/6/20:

Kenneth Nowak – Youth Support Specialist
Chase Kriner – Youth Support Specialist
Curtis Stanley – Youth Support Specialist
Jill Winkler – Youth Support Specialist
Michelle Briggs – House Parent 2

Employment
separation –
R.Baker
R.Houghtaling
W.Kaczynski

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the separation from employment of the following part-time employees, due to the reorganization of the Residential Program, effective 4/6/20:

Ruby Baker – Youth Support Specialist
Rosemary Houghtaling – Youth Support Specialist
Wesley Kaczynski – Youth Support Specialist

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

Issue
Proclamation

Congratulations
Tioga County High School Graduates
2020

WHEREAS, graduation for a high school senior student is a time of great celebration and feeling of accomplishment; and

WHEREAS, years of hard work and dedication to their studies are rewarded. There are also many events of celebration and recognition in the final months of a student's senior year; and

WHEREAS, students have been spending the last months of their graduation year at home with online classes and distance learning. Feelings of disappointment, anger and isolation are understood as they are separated from their fellow students and teachers; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, most of the celebrations and graduation commencement ceremonies will not happen due to the coronavirus pandemic. Not the graduation they or their proud parents expected.

The Tioga County Board of Commissioners, under these unique circumstances, would like to extend our congratulations to all Tioga County High School Graduates. We are proud of your accomplishments and we wish you much success and happiness in your future endeavors.

/s/ Erick J. Coolidge
/s/ Mark L. Hamilton
/s/ Roger C. Bunn

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

2020 EMS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Issue
Proclamation

WHEREAS, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital, care which includes preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, rescue personnel, emergency medical technicians, advanced emergency medical technicians, paramedics, prehospital nurses, prehospital physician extenders, air medical personnel, emergency medical responders, emergency vehicle operators, firefighters, police officers, educators, dispatchers, administrators, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

NOW THEREFORE, the Commissioners of Tioga County hereby proclaim the week of May 17-23, 2020 as

“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK”

In Tioga County, and encourage the community to join with them in recognizing the value and accomplishments of the members of the EMS team.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hand and seal this 12th day of May, 2020.

TIOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
/s/ Erick J. Coolidge
/s/ Mark L. Hamilton
/s/ Roger C. Bunn

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

Adopt
Resolution
R-6-20

Resolution R-6-20

WHEREAS, Tioga County Commissioners (“Applicant”) desires to undertake the project, “Patterson Trailhead Master Plan and Connectivity Study” (“Project Title”); and

WHEREAS, the applicant desires to receive from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (“Department”) a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

WHEREAS, the application package includes a document entitled “Terms and Conditions of Grant”; and

WHEREAS, the applicant understands that the contents of the document entitled “Terms and Conditions of Grant,” including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and the Department if the applicant is awarded a grant; and

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. The grant application may be electronically signed on behalf of the applicant by Erick J. Coolidge, who, at the time of signing, has a Title of Chairman, and the email address of ecoolidge@tiogacountypa.us.
2. If this Official signed the Grant Application Electronic Authorization prior to the passage of this Resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing.

- 3. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the Grant Application Electronic Authorization, signed by the above Official, will become the applicant/grantee's executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement.
- 4. Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the Official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the Title specified in paragraph 1 and the grantee will be bound by the Amendment.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Tioga County Board of Commissioners of this applicant, this 12th day of May, 2020.

/s/ Erick J. Coolidge /s/ Mark Hamilton /s/ Roger C. Bunn

Adopt
Resolution
R-7-20

A motion was made by Erick J. Coolidge, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

**REMEMBER THE USS LIBERTY
R-7-20**

Whereas, the USS Liberty AGTR5, a US Navy intelligence gathering ship, was operating in international waters off the Sinai Peninsula on June 8, 1967; and

Whereas, the Israeli/Arab 6-day War was in progress; and

Whereas, the USS Liberty was clearly marked and flying the American flag; and

Whereas, Israeli military forces, strafed, napalmed and torpedoed the USS Liberty at will with only token resistance from Liberty machine guns; and

Whereas, the commanding officer, Captain William L. McGonagle, and the valiant crew attempted to save the ship from total destruction while awaiting US Navy assistance; and

Whereas, the fighter aircraft launched from the USS Enterprise to rescue the Liberty were recalled under orders from Washington; and

Whereas, 34 non-combatant men, military and civilian, lost their lives in the performance of their duty as well as 172 wounded; and

Whereas, the Israeli government labeled this assault on a US Navy ship as an "accident" and "mistaken identity" even though the USS Liberty was clearly marked with hull markings and flying the American flag in a stiff breeze; and

Whereas, the US Navy and National Security Agency intelligence chiefs familiar with this unprovoked attack by an "allied government" have stated unequivocally that Israeli forces had clearly identified the Liberty.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Tioga County Commissioners do hereby declare June 8, 2020 as "Remember the USS Liberty Day" and order the flag at the Tioga County Courthouse and other County facilities to be flown at half mast in memory and support of the officers, crew and their families.

Tioga County Board of Commissioners
/s/ Erick J. Coolidge
/s/ Mark L. Hamilton
/s / Roger C. Bunn

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

Adopt
Resolution
R-8-20

**Tioga County
Real Estate Tax Exemption
For
Surviving Spouses of Service Members Killed in Action**

Resolution R-8-20

WHEREAS, Tioga County currently provides a real estate tax exemption for all veterans and unmarried surviving spouses of veterans who meet the criteria, as stated in the County Code and Title 51, Subchapter C, Section 5.23 Eligibility (2) (b) subsections (i), (ii), (iii), (iv); and

WHEREAS, if a Service member is killed in action during war or killed in the line of duty while on active duty, the state legislature does not allow for the surviving spouse to qualify for real estate tax exemption; and

WHEREAS, Tioga County wishes to extend the real estate tax exemption process to include surviving spouses of active duty Service members, including those in the Reserves and the National Guard killed in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, should the surviving spouse of a Service member who is killed in the line of duty remarry, the real estate tax exemption shall end. grant real estate tax exemption to surviving spouses of active duty Service members killed in the line of duty.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Tioga County is committed to supporting the thousands of veterans and their dependents in our County. Effective this 12th day of May, 2020, Tioga County will grant real estate tax exemption to surviving spouses of active duty Service members killed in the line of duty.

TIOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
/s/ Erick J. Coolidge /s/ Mark Hamilton /s/ Roger C. Bunn

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

Adopt
Resolution
R-9-20

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
EXTENDING 2020 COUNTY/MUNICIPAL REAL ESTATE TAX BILL FACE PERIOD.**

RESOLUTION NO. R-9-2020

WHEREAS, Act 15 of 2020, §5711 provides temporary authority to a taxing district to deal with the taxation of all real property made taxable by the laws of this Commonwealth during the COVID-19 disaster emergency; and

WHEREAS, Act 15 of 2020 §5713 (b) a taxing district may, by majority vote of the taxing district's governing body, (2) waive any fee or penalty otherwise associated with the late payment of the tax if paid in full by December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, A majority of the taxing district's governing body has voted in favor of waiving any fee or penalty otherwise associated with the late payment of the tax if paid in full by December 31, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED and it is HEREBY RESOLVED that the Tioga County Board of Commissioners waive any fee or penalty otherwise associated with the late payment of the tax if paid in full by December 31,2020.

This resolution shall take effect June 30, 2020.

DULY ORDERED AND ENACTED, by the Tioga County Board of Commissioners in lawful session duly assembled the 12th day of May 2020.

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Erick J. Coolidge
/s/ Mark L. Hamilton
/s/ Roger C. Bunn

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

Adopt
Resolution
R-10-20

**Conveyance of Property to the County of Tioga
In Lieu Of Condemnation**

Resolution No. R-10-20

WHEREAS, a purchase agreement was made on the 14th day of August, 2018, by and between the County of Tioga, a political and municipal subdivision, with a mailing address of 118 Main Street, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania and Patterson Lumber Co., Inc., a Pennsylvania corporation, having an address of 34 Fellows Avenue, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, Tioga County was considering filing condemnation proceedings upon the property in order to construct the Marsh Creek Greenway; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed that in lieu of condemnation proceedings, the property owned by Patterson Lumber Co., Inc. at 34 Fellows Avenue, Wellsboro Pennsylvania, will be conveyed to the County of Tioga by special warranty deed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Tioga will acquire the aforesaid property located at 37 Charleston Street, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, in lieu of condemnation for the sum of \$294,738.67.

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Erick J. Coolidge
/s/ Mark L. Hamilton
/s/ Roger C. Bunn

Acquisition of
Patterson
property

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an acquisition of the former Patterson property on Charleston Street, for the future site of the Marsh Creek Greenway trailhead building - \$294,738.67. Funding sources: Grants, Patterson Foundation, and Partnership for Community Health.

HSSP FY20/21
Recommendations

A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the following recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Human Services and Supports Program (total: \$66,474): Area Agency on Aging Home Delivered Meals (\$18,000); Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$21,230); Family Service Assoc. of NE PA (\$5,206); Partners in Progress (\$7,038); On-line Directory (\$5,000); Ready Rosie (\$5,000); and TREHAB (\$5,000).

Hazmat agreement for north of Rt 6	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Spill Agreement with Incidence Response & Mitigation, LLC to service the area including and north of U.S. Route 6 in Tioga County. The County will only be billed if costs cannot be recovered from the responsible party and then the County will only be responsible for a maximum of \$10,000 for each emergency response incident. If a responsible party cannot be identified, the County will only be responsible for a maximum of \$25,000 for each response incident. The LEPC will provide the funding.
Hazmat agreement for south of Rt 6	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Spill Agreement with Northridge Group, Inc. to service the area including and south of U.S. Route 6 in Tioga County. The County will only be billed if costs cannot be recovered from the responsible party and then the County will only be responsible for a maximum of \$10,000 for each emergency response incident. If a responsible party cannot be identified, the County will only be responsible for a maximum of \$25,000 for each response incident. The LEPC will provide the funding.
Radio agreement w/ Capital Area Communications	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a three-year maintenance agreement with Capital Area Communications for the radios at the Tioga County Prison, term expiring March 31, 2023; \$148.00/ month (\$1,776.00 annually).
Vehicle Lease	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a five-year lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a 2020 Ford F-150 for the Tioga County Soil Conservation District; \$477.61/month.
CAD system agreement w/ Logistic Sys.	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a five-year agreement with Logistic Systems Inc. for a computer aided dispatch system for the 911 center at the Department of Emergency Services - \$300,693.
A/C maint. agreement w/ Van Hook Svc	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a one-year agreement with Van Hook Service Co. for preventative maintenance of air conditioning units at the Courthouse, Prison, Tokishi building, and the Document Retention building - \$3,800.
Pest mgmt. agreement w/ Ehrlich	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an agreement with Ehrlich for pest management at the Courthouse, \$60.00 per quarter.
Food Purchase Program for food pantries	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a one-year State Food Purchase Program Participation Plan to allocate grant funding to the four local participating food pantries (Wellsboro, Tioga, Mansfield, and Compassion Center in Westfield). The State Food Purchase Program Grant will be for fiscal year 2020/2021.
Emerg. Food Assistance grantee cert. for Tioga Food Pantry	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a Grantee Certification for the Emergency Food Assistant Development and the State Food Purchase Program – stating that the Tioga Food Pantry in Tioga, PA meets the requirements for participation in the program to distribute food to those in need. This is for the term 7/1/2020 – 3/31/2021, and may be extended for up to three years thereafter, in one-year periods.
Coop agreement for 2020 Build grant	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a Cooperative Agreement between the Counties of Tioga, Clinton, Lycoming and SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority for submission of a joint application to the 2020 Build Program. Tioga County's component of the request is \$9,429,139 to be used for the Marsh Creek Greenway and reconstruction of the Charleston Street bridge.
Court Union – Professional Employees contract	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an agreement between the Tioga County Commissioners and the Tioga County Court Employees Association Bargaining Unit – PERA-R-94-349-E for Professional Employees, for the term January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2020.
ESRI – license agreement	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a three-year license agreement with ESRI for GIS software licenses, \$38,500 per year.
LDG – bridge proposal for Trail	A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a proposal from Larson Design Group for the Howellville Bridge dismantling, loading, and temporary storage in Tioga County. This bridge will be used along the Marsh Creek Greenway trail. Total compensation estimated to be \$7,400. Act 13.
County real estate tax refunds	A motion was made by Mark L. Hamilton, seconded by Roger C. Bunn and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the following County real estate tax refunds: Edward & Eva Baer, Clymer Twp., \$34.54; Walter & Charlene Sampson, Charleston Twp., \$116.83; CNG Products Company, Gaines Twp., \$188.53; Jay & Wanda Erb, Lawrence Twp., \$294.77.

6 Agreements
for DHS

A motion was made by Roger C. Bunn, seconded by Mark L. Hamilton and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve six agreements for the Department of Human Services. A listing is attached.

Public Comment –

Tim Cleveland – despite the negative “talk” on Facebook, all County veterans’ graves will have flags and markers, as always.

The next meeting of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for June 16, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 10:41.

Attest: _____
Derek Williams

Erick J. Coolidge

Mark Hamilton

Roger C. Bunn