

The regular meeting of the Tioga County Commissioners was called to order this day at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: Sam VanLoon, Marc Rice, and Shane Nickerson. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Casey Zuchowski, Jen Cochran, Mary Wilson, Sara Rice, Sandra Olson, Tiffany Cummings, Josh Zeyn, Nichole Riner, Kaye Aumick, Lisa Rice, Penny Whipple, Tim Cleveland, Doug Wicks, Grant McCauley Chris Perry, Betsy Craig, Joy Childs, Dan Styborski, Bob Goodrich, Krys Knecht, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments (agenda items) –
None

Minutes A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of May 14, 2024.

Title IV-D Funds For information: Funds received for the Title IV-D Program by the Tioga County Domestic Relations Section for calendar year 2023 are \$328,672.74. The Domestic Relations Selection collected \$4,876,352.12 in support payments in 2023. These payments have a major impact on the families and children of this county, and also reduce the costs of federal and state welfare programs paid for by the taxpayers.

Recognition N.Riner The Board recognized Nichole L. Riner for completion of 90 hours of certification classes and passing the state Certified Pennsylvania Evaluator exam.

Resignations J.Williams E.Heckman For information, the following resignations were received:
Jacquelynn Williams, 911 Dispatcher, effective 5/28/254
Ethan Heckman, 911 Dispatcher, effective 6/3/24

Hired A.McHugh J.Reichert N.Fitch For information, the following individuals have been hired:
Adam McHugh, Deputy Sheriff, \$18.50/hr. with benefits, effective 6/3/24
Joanne Reichert, Judicial Line Staff, Probation, \$14.08/hr. with benefits, effective 6/6/24
Noah Fitch, Probation Officer, \$19.04/hr. with benefits, effective 7/1/24

Promote K.Toth For information, promoted Kelsey Toth to Office Manager, Mansfield MDJ Office, \$15.90/hr. effective 6/3/24.

Hire T. Gordon A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the hire of Tara Gordon, Ongoing Caseworker 1, Family Services, \$18.15/hr. with benefits effective 6/24/24.

Hire R.Satterly A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the hire of Rob Satterly, 911 Dispatcher-in-training, \$17.00/hr. with benefits effective 6/24/24.

Withdraw employment offer A.McNett A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the withdrawal of employment offer to Alisha McNett for position of Custodian.

Promotion H.Rutledge, Jr. A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the promotion of Howard Rutledge, Jr. to Emergency Management Planner / Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, \$20.19/hr. effective 6/16/24.

Promotion N.Riner A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the promotion of Nichole Riner from Clerk to Clean & Green Specialist, Assessment Office, \$17.00/hr.

Transfer L.Shafer A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the transfer of Luanne Shafer from Deputy Sheriff to Records Retention and Maintenance Support Coordinator, \$18.00/hr., effective 6/17/24.

Status change E.Leonard A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the status change of Erica Leonard from Dispatcher-in-training to Emergency Call Taker for 911, with a \$1.00/hour increase, effective 6/2/24.

HSS Recommendations A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the following recommendations for Human Services & Supports programs for the 24/25 Fiscal Year, totaling \$69,915:
AAA Home Delivered Meals- Meals on Wheels: \$20,000
AAA Home Delivered Meals – Emergency Services: \$2,000
Family Services Assoc of NEPA – Helpline: \$7,500
Partners in Progress Camp - \$7,260
Tioga County Partnership for Community Health – On-line Directory: \$7,000
TREHAB Housing Services – Housing Specialist: \$5,000
Wellspring – Mobile Social Rehabilitation: \$21,155

2024 ROP A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the 2024 Response Operations Plan for Tioga County.

Use of Green A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a request to use the Green on Saturday, September 7, 2024, for the Hometown Science Festival, 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Use of Green A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a request to use the Green on Saturday, September 28, 2024, for the Walk for Recovery event to celebrate National Recovery Month, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

**Proclamation
Tioga County Child Welfare Appreciation Week
June 3 - 7, 2024**

Issue
Proclamation

WHEREAS, every day in Tioga County, children are at risk of child abuse and neglect or have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, Tioga County recognizes the risks and the need to protect the children of the County; and

WHEREAS, the challenging task of investigating child abuse, providing services to families, assessing safety, and providing services to ensure that Tioga County's children are provided with nurturance, family connections, support as they transition into adulthood, and services that allow a child to remain safely in their home or return home as expeditiously as possible falls to the child welfare professionals of the child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, the work of child welfare professionals may require them to enter into situations in which their personal safety may be put at risk; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals work in difficult and emotional situations with children who have been victimized by physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and other forms of maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals must develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering from drug and alcohol afflictions, poverty, and other difficult issues; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals must develop substantial knowledge and skills surrounding the rights of families, the laws surrounding child welfare, how to develop culturally sensitive services, and the legal processes governing the system; and

WHEREAS, child welfare professionals selflessly undertake the endeavor to protect Tioga County's children, often with low pay, long hours, tremendous demands, little appreciation, great criticism, and with dramatic impacts to their personal life; and

WHEREAS, every year, child welfare professionals are injured or killed in their pursuit to protect children across the United States; and

WHEREAS, workforce challenges have created tremendous challenges in the field of child welfare; and

WHEREAS, innumerable injuries and deaths of children have been averted due to the efforts of child welfare professionals; therefore, in special recognition of the efforts of the Child Welfare Professionals serving the children of Tioga County, we, the Commissioners of Tioga County, do hereby proclaim June 3-7, 2024 as TIOGA COUNTY CHILD WELFARE APPRECIATION WEEK.

Tioga County Board of Commissioners
/s/ Sam VanLoon /s/ Marc Rice /s/ Shane Nickerson

Purchase bus stop shelter A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the purchase of a bus stop shelter for the Charleston Street connector location by Pinnacle Towers - \$14,950. Act 13.

Funding to Partnership for Community Health A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve funding of \$4,860 to the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health to support on-going transportation of individuals who need to travel outside the County to receive dialysis treatment. This is expected to cover expenses for another three months, until the new center in Wellsboro is open. Act 13.

G.R.Noto change order A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a change order from G. R. Noto Electrical Construction, for the Veterans Affairs building project, to furnish and install fan coil power wiring to the fan coil per system requirements - \$1,048. Act 13.

County real estate tax refunds A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the following County real estate tax refunds: Six West Settlements, Chatham Township, \$379.24; William L. Gillen, Jr., Delmar Township, \$515.40; Derek J. Tipple, Delmar Township, \$562.55; Christopher Matthews, Lawrence Township, \$696.04; Jason & Valerie D. Miller, Liberty Township, \$157.83.

County real estate tax refunds A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a court ordered refund for tax year 2023 for the two parcels owned by Victaulic Company. This court order is a result of an assessment appeal filed by the Victaulic Company in 2022. Parcel# 19/03.00/088G//000 - \$487.53; Parcel# 19/03.00/096//000 - \$23,768.63.

DHS – 23
agreements

A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve 23 agreements for the Department of Human Services. A listing is attached.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the following expenses for May, 2024:

May 2024
expenses

May 2024 payroll & benefits - \$1,241,444.49
Mat 2024 accounts payable - \$3,070,737.66

Public Comment –

Krys Knecht – Humane Officer for Tioga County; funding is needed from the County

The next meeting of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for July 9, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Attest: _____
Janice Chamberlain, Chief Clerk

Sam VanLoon

Marc Rice

Shane Nickerson

The regular meeting of the Tioga County Salary Board was called to order today at 10:31 a.m. with the following members present: Sam VanLoon, Marc Rice, and Shane Nickerson. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Casey Zuchowski, Jen Cochran, Mary Wilson, Sara Rice, Sandra Olson, Tiffany Cummings, Josh Zeyn, Nichole Riner, Kaye Aumick, Lisa Rice, Penny Whipple, Tim Cleveland, Doug Wicks, Grant McCauley Chris Perry, Betsy Craig, Joy Childs, Dan Styborski, Bob Goodrich, Krys Knecht, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of May 14, 2024.

For information, adjust hourly rate for Sheriff Deputy Cody Speigel who has graduated from the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Academy. New rate is \$20.50/hr. effective 5/20/24.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a request to create the position of Clean & Green Specialist, Assessment Office, \$17.00/hr.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to Approve request to create the following positions at the Dept. of Human Services. These positions are all being transferred back to the County from SAM, Inc. They are all in the Family Services unit, and the starting rate will be determined at a later date.

Title	# of Positions
Director of Family Services	1
Ongoing Casework Manager 1	2
Ongoing Casework Supervisor	3
Ongoing Caseworker 1	6
Ongoing Caseworker 2	3
Ongoing Caseworker 3	2
C&Y Caseworker Assistant	5
Clerical Support Staff	4
Clerical Support Staff (part-time)	1 (no benefits)
Training Policy Specialist (Supervisor)	1
Systems Analyst	1

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Attest: _____
Janice Chamberlain, Chief Clerk

Sam VanLoon

Marc Rice

Shane Nickerson