

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, Kera Hackett, Mary Wilson, Sara Rice, Troy Freeman, Saira Olson, Josh Zeyn, Jen Cochran, Kaye Aumick, Lisa Rice, Penny Whipple, Chris Perry, Betsy Craig, Joy Childs, Bob Goodrich, Chris Eckert, Sawyer Douglass, Gretchen Douglass, Jim Douglass, Roger Bunn, Erick Coolidge, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments (agenda items) –  
None

Minutes

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 minutes of April 9, 2024.

S.Douglass –  
Eagle Scout  
Proclamation

The Board recognized Sawyer Douglass for his Eagle Scout award with the following Proclamation. The Proclamation is dated for Sawyer's Eagle Scout celebration.

**COUNTY OF TIOGA**

**SAWYER DOUGLASS  
EAGLE SCOUT**

WHEREAS, the Tioga County Board of Commissioners wishes to recognize the accomplishment of Sawyer Douglass, of Wellsboro Boy Scout Troop 24, who has earned the Eagle Scout Award; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle Scout Award is the highest Boy Scout award; and

WHEREAS, Sawyer is a senior at Galeton High School and played football in his junior and senior years on the Cowanesque Valley High School football team through a PIAA co-op agreement that he facilitated between the two schools; and

WHEREAS, he has been accepted to and plans to attend Alfred State College for heavy equipment operation and a business degree; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of the Goodyear Hose Company in Galeton and is currently taking the classes necessary to obtain his Firefighter 1 certification; and

WHEREAS, Sawyer's Eagle Scout project was an open house at the Goodyear Hose Company in Galeton, PA. He distributed smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to community members in need, while teaching the importance of fire safety and the need for more volunteers.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Tioga County Board of Commissioners wishes to offer their sincere congratulations to Sawyer Douglass on his receiving the Eagle Scout Award.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024. /s/ Sam VanLoon /s/ Marc Rice /s/ Shane Nickerson

Resignations –  
K.Logan  
E.Macias  
M.Bartlow  
M.Cheek

For information, the following resignations were received:  
Kelsey Logan, Custodian, effective 4/19/24  
Elizabeth Macias, Dispatcher-in-Training, Emergency Services, effective 4/28/24  
Megan Bartlow, Corrections Officer, Tioga County Prison, effective 5/10/24  
Matthew Cheek, Maintenance/Document Retention, effective 5/10/24

Hire 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 hire of Alisha McNett, Custodian, \$12.75/hr. with benefits, effective 5/20/24.

Promotion  
B.Sackett

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 Brock Sackett, from Intern to full-time Resource Conservationist, Tioga County Soil Conservation District, \$20.00/hr. with benefits, effective 5/28/24.

Promotion  
B.Howard

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 Briana Howard, from Caseworker 1 to Caseworker 2, Intake Unit of Family Services, \$19.50/hr. with benefits, effective 4/21/24.

Termination  
M.Presler

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 termination of Maxwell Presler, Emergency Management Planner, effective 4/22/24.

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

**RESOLUTION BY MUNICIPALITY CERTIFYING PROVISION OF LOCAL  
MATCH FOR STATE OPERATING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
R-9-24**

Adopt  
Resolution  
R-9-24

The Board of Commissioners of Tioga County resolves and certifies that it will provide Endless Mountains Transportation Authority local funds in the amount of \$ 41,559.46 to match state funds provided pursuant to 74 Pa. C.S. Section 1513 in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Further, the Board of Commissioners resolves and certifies that the required amount of local matching funds will be provided no later than the end of the State Fiscal Year, June 30, 2025. The following schedule indicates dates and payments of eligible local matching funds:

<u>Payment Date</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>
<u>January 30, 2025</u>	\$ <u>20,779.73</u>
<u>March 30, 2025</u>	\$ <u>20,779.73</u>

I, Sam VanLoon, Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners of Tioga County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Tioga County Commissioners held the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.

By: /s/ Sam VanLoon     Date: 5/14/2024

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

Adopt  
Resolution  
R-10-24

**RESOLUTION**  
**REMEMBER THE USS LIBERTY**  
R- 10-24

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, 2024 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/ Sam VanLoon     /s/ Marc Rice     /s/ Shane Nickerson

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

Issue  
Proclamation

**PROCLAMATION**  
**CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK**  
May 5-11, 2024

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's correctional system, originating under the leadership of William Penn in 1682, was the first to suggest changes in punishments for crimes, and continued to evolve from the establishment of Philadelphia's Walnut Street Jail in 1773 and the Eastern Penitentiary in 1829; and

WHEREAS, the "Pennsylvania System", as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

WHEREAS, today, Pennsylvania faces continued difficult challenges in corrections. With twenty-three state correctional institutions, one motivational boot camp, one training academy, two central office buildings, nine community corrections centers, twenty-one contract facilities, the Commonwealth's state-level correctional facilities house over 38,000 incarcerated people, the Parole Field Service supervises approximately 32,500 reentrants, and the Bureau of Community Corrections provides treatment and programming for approximately 2,500 reentrants; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's correctional services also extend to the county level with sixty-two institutions housing nearly 24,000 incarcerated people and the federal level with fourteen facilities housing nearly 9,000 incarcerated people; and

WHEREAS, the secure and safe operation and management of those facilities rests in the hands of nearly 31,000 trained, skilled, and dedicated professionals; from corrections officers to treatment specialists to parole agents to reentry specialists, and many more workers in various areas, these workers are committed to a common goal: the effective and humane operation of our Commonwealth's correctional facilities.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2024 to be CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize the vital role these dedicated professionals play in ensuring the effective operation of our correctional system in the interest of public safety.

<SEAL> GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this twenty-ninth day of April two thousand twenty-four, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-eighth.  
/s/ JOSH SHAPIRO, Governor

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:

Issue  
Proclamation

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK**  
May 6-12, 2024

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the nearly 4.7 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, professional nurses in Pennsylvania work hard to keep our families healthy and to provide high quality care to patients; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing is an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever due to the aging American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies and the explosive growth of home health care services; and

WHEREAS, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; and

WHEREAS, the cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Tioga County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of May 6 - 12, 2024, as **NATIONAL NURSES WEEK** and ask all residents of this community to join us in honoring the professional nurses who care for all of us, celebrate their efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024. **TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
/s/ Sam VanLoon /s/ Marc Rice /s/ Shane Nickerson

Use of Green

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a request for use of the Green by the Pine Creek Mennonite Church for a hymn sing on Friday, May 31, 2024, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Use of Green

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 for use of the Green by the Wellsboro Town Band on the following dates, from 6:00-8:30 p.m.: June 12, June 26, July 10, and July 24, 2024.

Annual appropriation TCHS

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an annual appropriation of \$10,000 to the Tioga County Historical Society for general operating expenses.

CAD agreement for 911

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an agreement with Computer Information Systems, Inc. for a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System for Tioga County 911 - \$288,750. Act 13.

MOU w/ Tri-County and DES

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., Tioga County Emergency Services, and the County of Tioga – to continue to share facility space on five communication towers: Park Hill, Tower Hill, Reynolds Road, Bloss Mountain, and Cedar Mountain.

Convergence Communications agreement

A motion was made by Mark Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an agreement between Tioga County Emergency Services and Convergence Communications for communication tower site leasing and construction management consulting services – not to exceed \$9,000.

PSP Agreement for TalkGroup  
 A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement for TalkGroup(s) between the Commonwealth of PA, acting through the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), and the County of Tioga. The PSP will be able to provide the County with situational awareness regarding PSP-involved incidents and advance notice of incidents that may call upon services within the County's span of control, e.g. local law enforcement, fire, EMA, etc. in response to PSP incidents.

Palmetto Posting extension  
 A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an amendment to an agreement between the County of Tioga and Palmetto Posting, Inc. to reflect an extension of the agreement through calendar year 2027, and increases in the price per tax sale posting to \$30.00 for 2024; \$32.50 for 2025; \$35.00 for 2026; and \$37.50 for 2027.

Wilson Civil Eng – supplement  
 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 supplement to the current agreement with Wilson Civil Engineering for the Marsh Creek Greenway South section and Trailhead – for Patterson Trailhead facility construction oversight - \$16,645.20 Act 13.

Wilson Civil Eng – change order  
 A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a change order with Wilson Civil Engineering for the Charleston Street Connector project – for unforeseen repairs to steel on the bridge - \$10,278.95. Act 13. A credit of \$10,000 towards the cost of the repairs has been given, which had been set aside for signage.

EADS Architects - amendment  
 A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an amendment to current agreement with EADS Architects, Inc. for construction phase services for the Patterson Trailhead facility - \$57,580. Act 13.

EADS Architects – amendment  
 A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an amendment to current agreement with EADS Architects, Inc. for construction phase services for the St. James complex stair/porch replacement project – fee not to exceed \$9,300. Act 13.

Enterprise – vehicle lease  
 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 5-year vehicle lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a 2024 Chevrolet Traverse Ltd for the Dept. of Human Services - \$834.87/month.

Verdin Co – clock maintenance  
 A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve an annual maintenance agreement with Verdin Company for the courthouse clock - \$735.00.

DHS – 18 agreements  
 A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve 18 agreements for the Department of Human Services. A listing is attached.

April 2024 expenses  
 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 following expenses for April, 2024:  
 April 2024 payroll & benefits - \$1,234,438.36  
 April 2024 accounts payable - \$5,450,770.53

Public Comment –  
 None

The next meeting of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for June 11, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 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 10:50 a.m. with the following members present: Sam VanLoon, Marc Rice, Shane Nickerson, and Kera Hackett. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Casey Zuchowski, Mary Wilson, Sara Rice, Troy Freeman, Saira Olson, Josh Zeyn, Jen Cochran, Kaye Aumick, Lisa Rice, Penny Whipple, Chris Perry, Betsy Craig, Joy Childs, Bob Goodrich, Chris Eckert, Sawyer Douglass, Gretchen Douglass, Jim Douglass, Roger Bunn, Erick Coolidge, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

Minutes A motion was made by Kera Hackett, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of April 9, 2024.

S. Brion rate increase A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve an hourly rate increase for Samantha Brion, Drug & Alcohol Case Management Specialist, from \$15.91/hr. to \$17.00/hr., in addition to moving from a 37.5-hour week to a 40-hour week. Samantha has taken on additional duties and responsibilities associated with Treatment Court.

Create position A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Kera Hackett and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve a request to create an Ongoing Casework Supervisor position at Human Services. This position is being created due to the transfer of positions back to the County from SAM Inc. Salary to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Chamberlain, Chief Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sam VanLoon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marc Rice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shane Nickerson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kera Hackett