

The regular meeting of the Tioga County Commissioners was called to order this day at 10:00 a.m. with the following members present: Marc Rice, Shane Nickerson, and Sam VanLoon. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Jen Cochran, Josh Zeyn, Kera Hackett, Scott Zubek, Lisa Rice, Cindy Alexander, Saira Olson, Joy Childs, Betsy Craig, Chris Perry, John Lundgren, Sandra Olson, Sara Rice, Mary Wilson, Tim Cleveland, MaryAnne Heston, Jennifer McCarthy, Titus Himmelberger, Bruce King, Bob Goodrich, Ken VanSant, Mike Spencer, Brandi Fitzwater, and press representative Natalie Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments (agenda items) – None

Minutes	A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of April 15, 2025.
DRO Title IV-D funds	For information, funds received for the Title IV-D Program by the Tioga County Domestic Relations Section for calendar year 2024 are \$326,252.57. The Domestic Relations Selection collected \$5,255,579.31 in support payments in 2024. 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.
Resignations S.Caber D.Crawford	For information, received the following resignations: Samantha Caber, Custodian, effective 4/17/25 Deborah Crawford, Administrative Director of Assessment, Planning & Tax Claim, effective 5/30/25
Hire M.Snyder	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 hire of Morgan Snyder, Intern, Soil Conservation District, \$15.00/hr., no benefits. Position is grant funded.
Transfer B.Carson	A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the transfer of Blair Carson, from Law Clerk to Assistant District Attorney, effective 5/19/25. No salary change.
Reappoint FLP Bd Members	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 reappointment of the following Farmland Preservation Board members, for three-year terms expiring 10/21/27: Donna Cleveland, Karl Kroeck, and Donald Norman.
Appoint J.Nawri to PT Library Board	A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve the appointment of Jennifer Nawri as the Mansfield Free Public Library representative on the Potter-Tioga Library System Board of Directors.
Use of Green	A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve use of the Green for the Almost World Famous Wellsboro Town Band, June 18, July 2, July 16, and July 30 from 6-8:30 p.m.
Verdin – clock maintenance	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 proposal from Verdin for one-year maintenance of the courthouse clock - \$735.00.
HSSP funding FY 25/26	A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve Human Services and Supports Program Fiscal Year 2025/2026 funding recommendations (total \$83,586): Area Agency on Aging: Meals on Wheels - \$20,000 Area Agency on Aging: Emergency Services - \$2,000 Family Services Association of NEPA - \$7,500 Partners in Progress: PIP Camp - \$8,280 Tioga County Partnership for Community Health: On Line Directory -\$7,000 Trehab Housing Services: Housing Specialist - \$5,000 Wellspring: Mobil Social Rehabilitation - \$33,806
Maximus Contract	A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a contract with Maximus for the development and delivery of central services cost allocation plan that identifies various costs incurred by Tioga County to support and administer federal programs. Term is a three-year contract, \$6,600/year.
F.A.S.T. contract	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 agreement with Fire Alarm Service Technology for monitoring service at the Patterson Trailhead building, one-year term, \$598.00.
MUPSTI funding request	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 for funding assistance from Commonwealth University – Mansfield Public Safety Training Institute, \$30,000. Act 13. Approval is given with understanding that half will be used towards tuition and half will be used for trainings, purchase of equipment, etc.
Nelson Twp funding request	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 for funding assistance from the Nelson Township Authority, due to a water emergency - \$11,000. Act 13. Payment will be made directly to trucking company, TA Fulmer LLC, who hauled water to Nelson Township.
Mansfield Boro funding request	A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a request for funding assistance for the critical upgrades needed at the Mansfield Borough Wastewater Treatment plant - \$42,500. Act 13.

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

Issue  
Proclamation

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**  
**Governor’s Office**  
**PROCLAMATION**  
**CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK**  
**May 4-10, 2025**

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, seven community corrections centers, twenty-one contract facilities, the Commonwealth’s state-level correctional facilities house over 38,400 incarcerated people, the Parole Field Service supervises approximately 30,100 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-three institutions housing nearly 23,000 incarcerated people and the federal level with ten 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 4-10, 2025 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-fifth day of April two thousand twenty five, the year of the  
Commonwealth the two hundred forty-ninth.  
/s/ Governor Josh Shapiro

A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to add the following item to the agenda. A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

Issue  
Proclamation

**NATIONAL NURSES WEEK**  
**May 6-12, 2025**  
**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, 2025, 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025. TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
/s/ Marc Rice /s/ Shane Nickerson /s/ SamVanLoon

A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to add the following item to the agenda. A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

Issue  
Proclamation

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Governor’s Office  
PROCLAMATION  
MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH  
May 2025**

WHEREAS, the mental health of every Pennsylvanian is essential to the prosperity and well-being of the families and communities throughout our Commonwealth, and mental health conditions are common and impact people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and socioeconomic backgrounds in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, mental health advocacy is crucial to raising public awareness, breaking down stigma and discrimination, encouraging self-advocacy, delivering timely and quality mental health services, and supporting people with mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, early identification, intervention, and treatment of mental health conditions can improve, and event save, lives, and it is important to learn the signs and symptoms of these conditions in order to seek and receive help when it is needed; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the significant role that the dedicated network of advocates, professionals, state leaders and agencies, local governments, and community providers play in the delivery of services and support for individuals, their families, and our communities; and

WHEREAS, this month-long observation puts conversations surrounding mental health at the forefront, and has been a catalyst for setting the groundwork for a state-wide network of assistance programs, safe-spaces, and resources; and

WHEREAS, we strive to create communities in our Commonwealth that support mental wellness by increasing access to treatment, educating ourselves and our communities about the effects of trauma, mental well-being and mental health challenges, and supporting our fellow Pennsylvanians as they seek to improve their mental health; and

WHEREAS, the commitment to prioritizing and championing mental health is a commitment to creating healthier and stronger communities where all Pennsylvanians can thrive.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2025 to be MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH.

I encourage Pennsylvanians to join with their families, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, schools, and communities to share their stories, increase awareness and understanding of mental health, and to recognize the necessity of accessible, appropriate, and affordable mental health resources, services, and support for all Pennsylvanians.

<SEAL> GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg,  
on this first day of May two thousand twenty five, the year of the  
Commonwealth the two hundred forty-ninth.  
/s/ Governor Josh Shapiro

A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to add the following item to the agenda. A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to issue the following Proclamation:

Issue  
Proclamation

**PROCLAMATION  
NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH-TIOGA COUNTY  
MAY 2025**

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our communities and our State; and

WHEREAS, nationally there are more than 369,000 children and youth in foster care 12,465 in Pennsylvania and 61 in Tioga County; and

WHEREAS, all young people in foster care need a meaningful connection to someone who can be a support and lasting presence in their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship, and adoptive families who open their hearts and homes to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role in helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, public and private organizations who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children in and leaving foster care as well as the enduring and valuable contribution of foster parents and the foster care “system” is only good as those who choose to be part of it.

NOW THEREFORE, the Commissioners of Tioga County do hereby proclaim May as National Foster Care Month in Tioga County and urge all citizens to come forward and do something positive that will change a lifetime for a young person in foster care.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.      /s/ Marc Rice      /s/ Shane Nickerson      /s/ Sam VanLoon

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

**DESIGNATION OF AGENT  
RESOLUTION NO. R-6-25**

Adopt  
Resolution  
R-6-25

BE IT RESOLVED Board of Commissioners of Tioga County that Marti L. Shabloski, Deputy Director of Emergency Services, is hereby authorized to execute for and in behalf of Tioga County, a public entity established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, all required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG) or the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288 as amended by Public Law 100-707) or the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) program or Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) program under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq), National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-325) and the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-264), as pertains to federal mitigation grant programs indicated below (check all that apply):

$$\{X\} \text{ HMGP} \quad \{\} \text{ PDM} \quad \{\} \text{ FMA}$$

Passed and approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

## CERTIFICATION

I, Janice Chamberlain, duly appointed and Chief Clerk of Tioga County, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and approved by the Tioga County Board of Commissioners.  
/s/ Janice Chamberlain, Chief Clerk.

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

**TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TIOGA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. R-7-25**

Adopt  
Resolution  
R-7-25

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, TIOGA COUNTY  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A REQUEST FOR  
FUNDING THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY FLOOD MITIGATION  
PROGRAM.**

Be it RESOLVED, that the Tioga County Board of Commissioners hereby requests a Flood Mitigation Program grant of \$500,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Phase 1 of the Flood Mitigation Project in Mansfield Borough.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Marc Rice, Commissioner, and Jennifer Cochran, Assistant Chief Clerk, as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between Tioga County and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

I, Janice Chamberlain, duly qualified Chief Clerk of Tioga County, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held May 13, 2025 and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of Tioga County and remains in effect as of this date.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of Tioga County this 13th day of May, 2025.

Attest: /s/ Janice Chamberlain  
Chief Clerk

Tioga County: /s/ Marc Rice  
Commissioner

/s/ Jennifer Cochran  
Assistant Chief Clerk

A motion was made by Sam VanLoon, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to add the following item to the agenda. A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Sam VanLoon and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION  
REMEMBER THE USS LIBERTY  
R- 8-25

Adopt  
Resolution  
R-8-25

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, 2025 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/ Marc Rice      /s/ Shane Nickerson      /s/ Sam VanLoon

DHS – 20 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 twenty agreements for the Dept. of Human Services. A listing is attached.

April 2025 Payroll, AP      For information of the Board, April 2025 payroll/benefits was \$1,434,846.60, and April 2025 Accounts Payable was \$2,682,917.85.

- Public Comment –
- Mike Spencer – thanked the Board for use of the building on Shumway Hill Rd. as a men’s recovery house; currently housing eight men. Open House scheduled for 5/28/25.
  - Mary Ann Heston – appreciated all who contribute to the community. Asked the Board to invite Congressman GT Thompson to a town hall to discuss federal budget and the impact on our communities.
  - Chris Nmzek (sp?) – D.A.R. in Tioga County – 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. Will have a plaque for possible placement on the Green.

The next meeting of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for June 10, 2025.

Commissioner News –  
A Child Abuse Prevention & Foster Care Awareness block party will be held on the Green, May 21, 2025 from 11a.m.-2 p.m.

The Blossburg Coal Festival will be held May 23-24, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

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

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

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

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

The regular meeting of the Tioga County Salary Board was called to order today at 10:49 a.m. with the following members present Marc Rice, Shane Nickerson, Sam VanLoon, and Kera Hackett. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Jen Cochran, Josh Zeyn, Scott Zubek, Lisa Rice, Cindy Alexander, Saira Olson, Joy Childs, Betsy Craig, Chris Perry, John Lundgren, Sandra Olson, Sara Rice, Mary Wilson, Tim Cleveland, MaryAnne Heston, Jennifer McCarthy, Titus Himmelberger, Bruce King, Bob Goodrich, Ken VanSant, Mike Spencer, Brandi Fitzwater, 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 15, 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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