DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

MARCH 4, 2015
10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Haste, Chairman
Mike Pries, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary

STAFF PRESENT

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk; Marie E. Rebuck, Controller; Joseph A. Curcillo, III, Esq., Solicitor; Ed Marsico, District Attorney; John Goshert, Chief of CID; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Tom Guenther, Director of Information Technology; Gerald Feaser, Jr., Director of Registration & Elections; Jennifer Simpson, Court Administration; August Memmi, Director of Community & Economic Development; Steve Libhart, Director of EMA; Roxanne Snider, CID; Dave Schreiber, Human Resources; Kay Lengle, Human Resources; Robert Burns, Director of AAA; Amy Harinath, Press Secretary; Melissa Bradley, Human Resources; Fred Lighty, Esq., Solicitor’s Office; J. Scott Burford, Deputy Chief Clerk; Julie Mackey, Commissioners’ Office; Melody Osborn, Commissioners’ Office and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

James Roxbury, Barb Miller, Stephen Hetrick, WHP, WGAL and Fox 43

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Haste, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.
MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There are several sets of Meeting Minutes that will be considered at next week’s Legislative Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD BETWEEN MEETINGS

Mr. Saylor reported that there were no Executive Sessions held between meetings.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

A. Ed Marsico, District Attorney, and John Goshert, Chief of CID

1. Presentation on the New Elder Abuse Detective

Mr. Marsico indicated that he is here today with Chief John Goshert of the Criminal Investigations Division of the District Attorney’s Office, as well as newly hired County Detective Roxanne Snider. Roxanne is familiar to the Board from her work before with the Area Agency on Aging. Mr. Burns, Director of the Area Agency on Aging, is also here. Several years ago this Board initiated, through Commissioner Hartwick’s leadership, an Elder Abuse Task Force, which brought together law enforcements, financial institutions like banks and social service agencies all working together to combat the growing trends that the Board was seeing with regard to elder abuse, whether it was financial abuse, physical abuse or neglect. That Task Force has been extremely successful. Relationships were developed. Through the partnerships, the Task Force has been successful in bringing some highly publicized cases to successful conclusions. There is nothing fun about those cases. They are tragic all around. A lot of times they involve family members taking advantage of an elderly family member, financially or physically. Today, the Task Force will be going to the next level by hiring Roxanne as a County Detective, who is going to be here specializing in these types of cases. Now, municipal police officers throughout the County will have a contact here to run things by as they do their own investigations or to turn investigations over to CID if they don’t have the resources. He thanked the Board for their leadership in starting the Elder Abuse Task Force many years ago, but now allowing them to make this hire to
fine tune what is already running rather well. Roxanne has experience as a police officer in Centre County prior to coming to Dauphin County and obviously her experience working these types of cases will be invaluable. It is a type of experience that not many municipal police officers get. That is why the County is fortunate to have her.

Mr. Goshert stated that it is a perfect fit for his division. He has been a police officer here in Dauphin County for 40 years, 29 years with the City and 11 here. Back in the 1970’s the role of policeman was you lock people up and that was it. That role has changed. The role of police officers now has changed and the role of investigations has changed. More social work is needed. The demographics of the population are changing and you need someone with experience in not only to lock up the offender, but to help the victim. Roxanne offers that to the Division and to the whole County.

Ms. Snider stated that she is pleased to be able to continue the work that she did before with the Area Agency on Aging and moving it to the next level. She hopes to continue to work with the Elder Abuse Task Force. She is very passionate about working with older adults here in Dauphin County.

Mr. Haste stated that this should send a message to everyone in the community that the County takes this serious. Timing is good to be announcing this, because this is also the time of the year when the scams begin to circulate. When you hear these stories they are very tragic. It does send a clear, loud signal to the community. The County will be after those that think about harming the elderly.

Mr. Hartwick thanked the District Attorney, CID and the protective service unit, who is in the back of the room, it is the individuals that do the job every day that are the ones that are passionate. There are a lot of reasons to be proud of the employees, because they are the ones who really do the job. Dauphin County, since the Elder Abuse Task Force was created, had a less than 25% clearance rate or substantiation rate for these allegations. Right now, the County’s clearance rate is the top in the State. That is a direct credit to the cooperation, investigation and to those who passionately care about doing the job every day. There is a 52% substantiation rate here in Dauphin County, which is the largest and the best rate of attempting to bring those individuals to justice. Caseloads have increased from 204 to over 450. From banking institutions to the Attorney General’s Office to the County’s own law enforcement to local police to family members, the idea that only one in four cases still are being reported is pretty scary. Oftentimes, the ones that are supposed to be the loved ones are oftentimes the ones that take the biggest advantage. The County is committed to providing protection for seniors to make sure that they are not continued to be victimized and have the ability to live out their life with dignity. The County has also entered into a cooperative relationship with Dickinson to be able to provide representation to individuals who have been exploited through civil representation that is free to those individuals who have been exploited to try to recover whatever resources had been taken away. That is a very difficult process. In many cases the money has been spent and the recovery is very challenging, but the senior is not going to be further victimized and then have to
pay for attorneys for recovery fees. He thanked everyone again for all their work in helping Dauphin County’s seniors. For those scammers, it is going to be more difficult here than it is in most counties throughout the Commonwealth. If you know of someone who is being abused, please do not hesitate to report it. This Board has seen family members exploit multiple people. He provided the phone number to report abuse – 1-866-723-3111. The one commitment that this Board of Commissioners, the DA, law enforcement and the protective service unit will offer is that the County will look into every claim that is made. An investigation will be done and in 52% of the cases, the County found substantial reason to bring someone to a position to be accountable.

Mr. Pries indicated that he echoes both Commissioners’ comments. This is a great day for some of the most vulnerable members of the community, the children and the elderly. It is a bad day for those who are going to victimize those individuals in the future. He welcomed Roxanne aboard. He asked how many other counties have this type of thing in place.

Mr. Hartwick indicated that the County has been contacted by multiple counties. He believes there are a handful of other elder abuse task forces. The Attorney General has come in to take a look at what the County’s model has been and how it is structured. He does not know how many counties have them. It is something that this Administration is interested in and he believes that other counties will be served well by trying to structure it in the way that we have here in the County.

Mr. Pries indicated that the County will be able to take advantage of the communication pipeline that exists out there with Commissioner Hartwick’s connections.

B. Stephen Hetrick, Retirement Collaborative

1. Changes to the Dauphin County, PA Deferred Compensation Plan

Mr. Hetrick is with Retirement Collaborative, who acts as the Investment Advisor for the Deferred Compensation Plan. The Deferred Compensation Plan has a due diligence process to monitor the performance of the investment options available in the plan. Funds that are underperforming or have other deficiencies are placed on the watch list. Ideally it is hoped that those funds improve and work their way off the watch list. When this does not happen, they prepare a search for a new fund and review the findings with the Voluntary Employee Benefits Committee (VEBC). This has occurred with two of the investment options in the Plan. The emerging markets equity fund and the national resources fund. At the February VEBC meeting, they recommended removing the Wells Fargo Advantage Emerging Markets Equity Fund A and replacing it with a Van Eck Emerging Markets Fund Y and also removing the Van Eck Global Hard Assets Fund A and replacing it with a Vanguard Materials Index Fund Adm. The VEBC voted and approved these actions and the VEBC is now seeking the Board’s approval of the fund changes. Last week, he emailed an executive overview of the requested fund changes, along with information on each one of the funds. The VEBC requests that the
Board approve the proposed motions listed in the Executive Summary. He asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Hartwick asked if he needed action today or next week.

Mr. Haste indicated that it will be handled next week. The summary was right on. The employees really appreciate what Mr. Hetrick is doing.

**SALARY BOARD**

A complete set of Salary Board Meeting Minutes are on file in the Commissioners’ Office.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Ms. Lengle stated that on the Personnel Transactions Listing, there are several items that she is requesting a vote on today - New Hires #9 and #10 and Changes #16 through #23. She also noted that Change #24; the effective date should be March 16, 2015. She asked if there were any questions. (There was none.)

*It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve New Hires #9 and #10 and Changes #16 through #23 listed on the Personnel Transactions Listing.*

**Question:** Mr. Haste – Aye; Mr. Pries – Aye and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

The remainder of the Personnel Packet will be considered at next week’s Legislative Meeting.

**PURCHASE ORDERS**

Mr. Baratucci stated that there are a few minor budget adjustments that need to be made. He asked if there were any questions. (There was none.)

The Purchase Order Packet will be considered at next week’s Legislative Meeting.

**TRAINING PACKET**

*It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve Item #1 on the Training Packet.*

**Question:** Mr. Haste – Aye; Mr. Pries – Aye and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION


It was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve Item A listed above under Items for Discussion.

Question: Mr. Haste – Aye; Mr. Pries – Aye and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – JOE CURCILLO, III, ESQ.

Mr. Curcillo reported that everything will be ready. He has nothing to add.

CHIEF CLERK’S REPORT – CHAD SAYLOR

Mr. Saylor indicated that he has nothing to report unless there are questions of him. (There was none.)

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS

There was none.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board adjourn; motion carried.

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz