

APRIL 22, 2009

On the above date at 11:00 A.M. the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners convened a Salary Board Meeting with the following present: Maryanne Petrilla, Chairman; Gregory Skrepenak, Commissioner; Stephen Urban, Commissioner; Anthony Martinelli, Acting Controller; President Judge Chester Muroski, Douglas Pape, County Manager for Legislation/Chief Clerk; Vito DeLuca County Solicitor; Jacqueline Musto Carroll, District Attorney

CALL TO ORDER:..... Maryanne C. Petrilla, Chairman

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Walter Griffith commented that the agenda should be available before the meeting. Mr. Griffith stated that he thought there was a hiring freeze in the county. He questioned how positions were being created in the District Attorney's Office.

Commissioner Petrilla responded that the positions would be funded by a grant for the creation of a Mental Health Court, which would work in conjunction with the Drug & Alcohol Court. Commissioner Petrilla stated that the county would lose the grant funds if they didn't start the pilot program of the Mental Health Court.

Mr. Griffith questioned if these positions would be eliminated once the grant was complete. Mr. Griffith questioned the timeframe of the grant.

Commissioner Petrilla responded that the positions would be eliminated if the Mental Health Court was not successful. Commissioner Petrilla stated that it was a three year grant. If it was successful the county would reapply for the grant. If the county did not receive the grant then they would be forced to eliminate the court.

Mr. Griffith questioned the creation of positions listed for Court Administration.

Doug Richards stated that these positions were placed in the wrong department on the last salary board agenda. He stated that this was a correction to that agenda.

Doug Pape stated if more candidates were put through the Mental Health Court it would be less of a burden to the prison system and the county. Mr. Pape stated that the county should see a savings after the first three years.

COMMUNICATIONS:.....Douglas A. Pape
County Manager/Chief Clerk

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SALARY BOARD MEETING ON JANUARY 26, 2009.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Petrilla
“AYES” PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MARTINELLI

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SALARY BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 24, 2009.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Petrilla
“AYES” PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MARTINELLI

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SALARY BOARD ACTIONS FOR:

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION SERVICES:

Create: One (1) Clerk Typist I at an annual salary of \$25,515 effective April 22, 2009.

One (1) Probation Officer at an annual salary of \$45,897.22 effective April 22, 2009.[**For the duration of the Mental Health Court Grant.**]

Eliminate: Two (2) Tipstaffs at an annual salary of \$39,664.00 effective April 22, 2009.

Two (2) Executive Secretaries with a salary range of \$35,000 – 50,000 effective April 22, 2009.

Two (2) Senior Law Clerks at an annual salary of \$39,455.00 effective April 22, 2009.

Four (4) Law Clerks at an annual salary of \$24,872.00 effective April 22, 2009

Commissioner Urban questioned the Clerk Typist I position.

Judge Muroski stated that Judge Grim requested help in working with the files for the juvenile probation cases. Judge Muroski stated that the salary for this position would be reimbursed by the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Court.

Commissioner Urban stated that he wanted it put on record that the position would be eliminated after Judge Grim completed the work on the juvenile cases.

Judge Muroski assured Commissioner Urban that the position would be eliminated after Judge Grim's evaluations.

Commissioner Skrepenak questioned if the Mental Health Court grant was from Congressman Kanjorski or the state.

Michael Vecchio stated that the grant funds were from PCCD.

Commissioner Skrepenak questioned the duration of the grant.

Mr. Vecchio stated it was for three years.

Commissioner Skrepenak questioned if the position would come back before the Salary Board for a vote if the Mental Health Court was to continue.

Mr. Vecchio responded that it would.

It was moved by President Judge Muroski, seconded by Commissioner Petrilla
"AYES" PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MUROSKI, MARTINELLI

**REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SALARY BOARD
ACTIONS FOR:**

COURT ADMINISTRATION:

Create: Two (2) Tipstaffs at an annual salary of \$39,664.00 effective
April 22, 2009.

Two (2) Executive Secretaries with a salary range of \$35,000 – 50,000
effective April 22, 2009.

Two (2) Senior Law Clerks at an annual salary of \$39,455.00 effective
April 22, 2009.

Four (4) Law Clerks at an annual salary of \$24,872.00 effective
April 22, 2009.

It was moved by President Judge Muroski, seconded by Commissioner Petrilla
“AYES” PETRILLA, MUROSKI, MARTINELLI “NAY” SKREPENAK, URBAN

**REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SALARY BOARD
ACTIONS FOR:**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE:

Create: One (1) Full Time Assistant District Attorney with an annual salary of \$34,032.23 effective April 22, 2009. **[For the duration of the Mental Health Court Grant]**

Create: One (1) Clerk II with an annual salary of \$21,000 effective April 22, 2009 **[For the duration of the Mental Health Court Grant]**

Jackie Musto Carroll stated that she wanted to change the Clerk II position to a Trial Assistant position. Ms. Musto Carroll stated that a trial assistant can perform more functions than a Clerk II. She stated that the salary would be the same amount for both positions.

Commissioner Petrilla questioned if this would have to be reviewed by the union.

Doug Richards stated that the position would need to be posted in the District Attorney’s Office.

Commissioner Skrepentak questioned if the funds were coming from the same PCC Grant.

Mr. Vecchio responded yes.

Request a motion to modify the position of a Clerk II to a Trial Assistant.

It was moved by Musto Carroll, seconded by Commissioner Urban
**“AYES” PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MARTINELLI, MUSTO
CARROLL**

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SALARY BOARD ACTIONS FOR:

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:

Create: One (1) Full Time Assistant District Attorney with an annual salary of \$34,032.23 effective April 22, 2009. [**For the duration of the Mental Health Court Grant**]

Create: One (1) Trial Assistant with an annual salary of \$21,000 effective April 22, 2009 [**For the duration of the Mental Health Court Grant**]

It was moved by Musto Carroll, seconded by Commissioner Urban
“AYES” PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MARTINELLI, MUSTO CARROLL

Walter Griffith commented that the Acting Controller was not a voting member of the Salary Board.

Vito DeLuca responded that it was his opinion that the Acting Controller does have the ability to vote.

Mr. Griffith stated that disagreed with Mr. Deluca's opinion.

Commissioner Petrilla stated that Mr. Martinelli did take an oath of office and is bonded.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was moved by Acting Controller Martinelli, seconded by Commissioner Urban
“AYES” PETRILLA, SKREPENAK, URBAN, MARTINELLI

Respectively submitted,



Jennifer Thomas, Recording Secretary