

JANUARY 20, 2011

On the above date the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners convened a Salary Board Meeting with the following present: Maryanne Petrilla, Chairman; Thomas P. Cooney, Commissioner; Stephen A. Urban, Commissioner; Walter Griffith, Controller; Douglas Pape, County Manager for Legislation/Chief Clerk; Vito DeLuca, Solicitor; Al Flora; Public Defender; Joe Piazza, Warden; Andy Check, Director of Human Resources; Sheriff John Gilligan; James O'Brien, Recorder of Deeds; John Corcoran, Coroner; Angelo Terrana, Board of Assessment Appeals

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

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

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SALARY BOARD MEETING ON JANUARY 3, 2011.

It was moved by Commissioner Cooney, seconded by Commissioner Urban
“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, GRIFFITH

REQUEST A MOTION TO ADOPT THE LUZERNE COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY REVISED AND EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011 WITH JANUARY 20, 2011 REVISION INCLUDED.

List of Row Officers Present: James O'Brien, Recorder of Deeds; Al Flora, Public Defender; John Corcoran, Coroner; Joseph Piazza, Warden LCCF; John Gilligan, Sheriff; Angelo Terrana, Board of Assessment Appeals

Walter Griffith

I just want to clarify on this motion. I'll be voting no. I do appreciate all the hard work Andy did as well as other people, but I don't agree with some of the provisions in this policy. So I will vote no on this based on those corrections. At some point in time we can make these corrections.

“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, O'BRIEN, FLORA, CORCORAN, PIAZZA, GILLIGAN, TERRANA “NAY” GRIFFITH

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

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS:

Eliminate: One (1) Board of Assessment Chairman Position at an annual salary of \$32,508.63, effective January 1, 2011.

One (1) Board of Assessment Vice Chairman Position at an annual salary of \$29,776.82, effective January 1, 2011.

One (1) Board of Assessment Secretary Position at an annual salary of \$29,776.82, effective January 1, 2011.

Create: One (1) Board of Assessment Chairperson Position at an annual salary of \$15, 000 per year without Benefits, effective January 1, 2011.

One (1) Board of Assessment Vice Chairman Position at an annual salary of \$15,000 per year without Benefits, effective January 1, 2011.

One (1) Board of Assessment Secretary Position at an annual salary of \$15,000 per year without Benefits, effective January 1, 2011.

Commissioner Urban

This is about a 60% reduction in salaries and benefits when you add it all together. Thank you for your cooperation.

Walter Griffith

In regard to this motion, I do apologize to the Assessment Board. My comment in the paper was unfair to you guys. The work you did in the past assessment with the reassessment and all these things. I just want to publicly apologize for my comment. It was unfair of me to say that because you guys worked very, very hard during the assessment appeals process where we had 6 days a week work and many hours to make sure the assessment process was done and carried out by the residents. I do appreciate that. I just want to publically apologize for my comments and to thank you again for your cooperation to reduce this because the county is obviously in a financial condition where we need cooperation, so I appreciate that.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Cooney
“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, GRIFFITH, TERRANA

LUZERNE COUNTY SHERIFF’S:

Create: Fifteen (15) Temporary Per Diem Deputy Sheriff Positions at an hourly rate of \$9.23 per hour without benefits, with each Temporary Per Diem Deputy Sheriff to be scheduled to work less than twenty (20) hours per week, at the discretion of the Sheriff, effective January 20, 2011.

Commissioner Urban

You have this money in your budget, right?

Sheriff Gilligan

Yes sir.

Commissioner Urban

Do you have any permanent vacancies now?

Sheriff Gilligan

One full time.

Commissioner Urban

Are you going to fill that too?

Sheriff Gilligan

Yes, it’s advertised.

Commissioner Urban

You absolutely need this?

Sheriff Gilligan

Yes, we had to pull everyone from the office and bring them across the street.

Walter Griffith

We did the budget hearings, I specifically asked for and I know the Tax Processing Office asked for per diems and over time and this was refused. And this gentleman is doing quite honestly a lot of work for 73 tax collectors and was not able to get per diems. I haven’t seen anything from the Sheriff’s Office stating why he needs the per diems. I understand we have a lot of departments, a lot of courts to run and things

like that but I haven't seen any evidence that would warrant 15 per diems. The certification; is the county responsible for that or is it state funded?

Sheriff Gilligan

If you would like to stop over I would gladly explain it to you in the office.

It was moved by Sheriff Gilligan, seconded by Commissioner Cooney
“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, GILLIGAN “NAY” GRIFFITH

RECORDER OF DEEDS:

Eliminate: One (1) Clerk Typist II Position at an annual salary of \$27,603.16 effective January 20, 2011.

Create: One (1) Clerk Typist I Position at an annual salary of \$22,000 effective January 20, 2011.

It was moved by Recorder O' Brien, seconded by Commissioner Cooney
“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, GRIFFITH, O'BRIEN

REQUEST A MOTION TO ADJOURN:

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Cooney
“AYES” PETRILLA, COONEY, URBAN, GRIFFITH

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Thomas, Recording Secretary