

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, Troy Freeman, Sara Rice, Kera Hackett, Dave Cohick, Penny Whipple, Fred Gorg, Jen Cochran, Josh Zeyn, Kaye Aumick, Tim Cleveland, Sandra Olson, Saira Olson, Chris Eckert, Joy Childs, Dan Styborski, Bob Goodrich, Jamie Cook, and press representative Nat Kennedy.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments (agenda items) –
Joy Childs – bike trail cost

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 December 12, 2023.

Resignations
B.Eastwood
J.Shumway
J.Cook

For information, the following resignations have been received:
Brady Eastwood, part-time Corrections Officer, Tioga County Prison, effective 12/30/23
Jane Shumway, Administrative Assistant, District Attorney's Office, effective 1/2/24
Jamie Cook, Assistant District Attorney, effective 1/4/24

Promotion
T.Wagaman

For information, promoted Todd Wagaman to Chief Detective, District Attorney's Office, \$62,000/year.

Hire L.
Berguson

For information, hired Linda Berguson, temporary Executive Assistant, District Attorney's office, \$16.00/hr., no benefits.

Termination
M.Smith

For information, terminated employment of Melanie Smith, Chief Detective, District Attorney's Office, effective 1/2/24.

Hire T.Swan

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 Tanner Swan, Field Assessor, Assessment office, \$18.00/hr. with benefits.

Hire B.Hall

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 Billie Jo Hall, Field Assessor, Assessment office, \$18.00/hr. with benefits.

Hire C.Ross

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to hire Caleb Ross, part-time on-call Corrections Officer, Tioga County Prison, \$13.81/hr., no benefits.

Hire C.Baker

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to hire Conner Baker, part-time on-call Corrections Officer, Tioga County Prison, \$13.81/hr., no benefits.

Appoint
S.Nickerson
Vice-Chair
Election Bd

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Sam VanLoon and carried upon vote of two ayes and no nays (Commissioner Nickerson abstained) to appoint Shane Nickerson as Vice-Chair of Election Board. This amends the appointment of Sam VanLoon at the 1/2/24 meeting.

Use of Green

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Mark Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve use of the Green by Christ Church, formerly Wellsboro Bible Church, May 3, 2024.

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

WHEREAS, for more than a century, much of the Tioga River and many of its tributaries have been devoid of aquatic life, polluted by acid mine drainage left behind from decades of coal mining; and

WHEREAS, since the 1980s, Charlie and Joyce Andrews of Blossburg, PA, the backbones of the Tioga County Concerned Citizens Committee (TCCCC), have maintained an unwavering commitment to heal their area waterways; and

WHEREAS, knowing that an active treatment plan to restore the Tioga watershed would cost millions of dollars, the Andrews kept their community active and engaged during the long search for funding; and

WHEREAS, the Tioga community is set to see recreational fishing restored, wildlife habitat improved, and value added to their properties; and

WHEREAS, the current project, which includes an active treatment plant that will restore more than 20 miles of streams and tributaries, is being funded by the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC), The Northwest Pennsylvania Conservancy and more than \$125,000 of raised dollars by the Andrews and the TCCCC. The plant is slated to begin operations by early 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Andrews have donated countless personal hours to this project and have received the William Jeanes, Sr. Award from the SRBC Commissioners.

NOW THEREFORE, the Tioga County Board of Commissioners thank Charlie and Joyce Andrews for their devotion to the restoration of the Tioga River Watershed.

Dated this 9th day of January, 2024.

TIOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS /s/ Sam VanLoon /s/ Marc Rice /s/ Shane Nickerson

Award low bid for MCG project

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to award the low bid of \$1,189,104.30 from H&P Construction, Inc. for the Marsh Creek Greenway Charleston Street Connector projects – Act 13.

Elkland Boro Tax Collection agreement

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 between Tioga County and the Borough of Elkland, stating that the County will collect taxes for Elkland Borough. This agreement is for the period 1/1/24 – 12/31/2025.

Motorola Solutions agreement

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 Motorola Solutions, for the Dept. of Emergency Services, for preventative maintenance as well as emergency response to critical failures of the radio system. This is a one-year agreement (1/1/24 – 12/31/24) - \$111,686.40.

SAVIN agreement

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Mark Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to approve a SAVIN maintenance and service agreement for the period 1/1/24 – 12/31/24, between the PA District Attorneys Institute and Tioga County. SAVIN is a victim notification system.

Poll worker increase

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 increase to \$50.00 per day for poll worker training.

6 agreements For DHS

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

Public Comment –
Joy Childs – county funding for humane officer (Kris Knecht)

The next meeting of the Tioga County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for February 13, 2024.

A motion was made by Marc Rice, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of three ayes and no nays to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 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 10:30 a.m. with the following members present: Sam VanLoon, Marc Rice, Shane Nickerson, and Kera Hackett. Also present was Janice Chamberlain, Casey Zuchowski, Troy Freeman, Sara Rice, Dave Cohick, Penny Whipple, Fred Gorg, Jen Cochran, Josh Zeyn, Kaye Aumick, Tim Cleveland, Sandra Olson, Saira Olson, Chris Eckert, Joy Childs, Dan Styborski, Bob Goodrich, Jamie Cook, and press representative Nat Kennedy.

Minutes

A motion was made by Kera Hackett, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve the minutes of December 12, 2023.

Create temporary position

A motion was made by Shane Nickerson, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve a request to create a temporary Executive Assistant position in the District Attorney's Office, \$16.00/hr., no benefits. This position will expire once the Executive Assistant position is filled.

Rate increase for S.Clark

A motion was made by Kera Hackett, seconded by Marc Rice and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to approve a \$1.00/hr. increase for Stacie Clark, Dept. of Emergency Services, for the designation of Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) Officer, a position held by a former employee. This designation is required by the PA State Police in order to utilize the Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network (CLEAN) and maintain a connection to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

Rate increase for L.Shafer

For information, Deputy Sheriff Luanne Shafer graduated from the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Academy on December 15, 2023. Her salary will be adjusted to \$19.00/hr. effective 12/18/23.

A motion was made by Kera Hackett, seconded by Shane Nickerson and unanimously carried upon vote of four ayes and no nays to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Attest: _____
Janice Chamberlain, Chief Clerk

Sam VanLoon

Marc Rice

Shane Nickerson

Kera Hackett