

COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING

April 11, 2019

YORK,ss

At a regular meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of York, begun and holden at the York County Government Building in Alfred, within and for the County of York, being held on Wednesday, April 11, 2019, 2019 A. D. at 9:00 A. M.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Richard R. Dutremble
Michael J. Cote
Richard Clark
Robert Andrews
Allen Sicard-excused

County Manager Gregory Zinser was present at the meeting.

All present were invited to rise and salute the flag of the United States.

Call Meeting to Order

04-11-19 **ITEM**

1 PUBLIC COMMENT(S) ON ANY ITEM(S)

None

2 TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

Linda Corliss presented the following names to the Commissioners for hiring as Corrections Officers:

Ashley Minard with a start date of 4-29-19

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Ashley Minard with a start date of April 29, 2019. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 4-0.

Allison Crispin with a start date of 4-29-19

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Allison Crispin with a start date of April 29, 2019. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 4-0.

Joshua Sehn with a start date of 5-13-19

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of Joshua Sehn with a start date of May 13, 2019. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 4-0.

David Evans with a start date of 5-23-19

Commissioner Clark motioned to approve the hiring of David Evans with a start date of May 23, 2019. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 4-0.

New hires will attend 5-28-19 academy

H.R. Director, Linda Corliss, informed all that the next Alert test is on April 19th in Gorham. She added that York County has eight people scheduled. New hires will attend the Criminal Justice Academy training that begins on May 28, 2019.

Commissioner Cote commented that he feels the Board needs to take a serious look at this process. He added that he believes the hiring of Corrections Officers should fall under the DOC not the MCJA.

Commissioner Clark suggested that if H.R. Director, Linda Corliss, who will be at the State House today for County Day, has the opportunity to talk to any legislators today, let them know that recruiting and retaining Corrections Officers is a County issue.

County Manager Greg Zinser commented that this item has been talked about in the past referencing a presence in Augusta. He continued that he is not seeing a presence in Augusta for these bills but, more of a fill-in by Commissioners who sit on the Board. MCCA is not taking a stand as much as they should have. Lots of Union Bills up there now that could negatively affect us.

We need to think about hiring a liaison at some point to get our own voice up there. He added that maybe a conversation (with Commissioners) this summer should occur about this.

The County Manager added that it will take a lot to get any movement to change training requirements (for Corrections Officers) and the Criminal Justice Academy. He continued that LD 357 (courthouse bill) sunk and where we go at the end of the day I don't know. Mr. Zinser commented that he has reached out to the Court Administrator and told him to institute Plan B, being that we need some kind of space in the courthouse.

Commissioner Dutremble asked if someone is derailing it (the bill)?

County Manager Zinser replied that many people are trying to derail it. Also, conversations aren't going well with the Governor.

Commissioner Clark commented that it will take serious money to hire a lobbyist. MMA people are in the building every day. They take a position on every act (bill). He estimated that to hire a full-time lobbyist it would cost over \$10,000 per county, per year. For \$120,00 to \$130,000, we might get someone that would do the work.

Commissioner Clark continued that our legislative delegation is not together. He stated that we don't hear from them and they don't hear from us. If they aren't going forward as a group, we won't get anywhere.

County Manager Zinser replied that the (YC) delegation has had meetings on this bill but it is becoming hard to be up there all the time. He ended with his point is that at some point we have to start looking at what this County is trying to accomplish. MCCA should've taken a point on this bill (courthouse) or at least a statement.

Commissioner Cote stated that while he is not disagreeing with the County Manager, he is on the MCCA legislative policy committee and a weekly call with bill updates does occur. MCCA does make decisions on what (bill) we will

support and not support. MCCA has decided to do a Resolve to let people know that they are supporting this Bill (courthouse). He further explained that MCCA's lobbyist, Charlie Pray, was hired as he was President of the Senate. He had a recent health problem, so he has been absent. Amy Fowler has worked to get people there. He continued that Cumberland County does have someone who does this (lobbying) for them. Maybe we could connect with Cumberland County, stated Commissioner Cote. He continued that the bigger the county, the bigger the issue and that every county has things they want to do. MCCA has been proactive in trying to do these things, stated Commissioner Cote. He added that he will put pressure on the MCCA Board.

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ADJOURN

Commissioner Clark motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cote seconded the motion. Vote 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.