



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Thursday, March 3, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Willowbank Office Building
420 Holmes Street, Room 146
Bellefonte, PA 16823

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Board of Commissioners was convened at 10:10 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Controller Jason Moser, Human Resource Analyst Geri Sorgen and Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith.

County personnel present included Ray Stolinas, Dave Crowley, Travis Walker, Ryan Smeltzer and Sheriff Bryan Sampsel.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions made to the agenda.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Thursday, February 24, 2022 Board of Commissioners meetings.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from February 24, 2022.*

V. PERSONNEL ITEMS

A. Correctional Facility

- i. Personnel requisition for full-time Corrections Officer, Correctional Facility, (p.c. #14, non-exempt, replacing T. Corl), at SG-N10, effective retro to February 18, 2022, pay period 5 – Dept. 333.
- ii. Central Booking – Personnel requisition for full-time Corrections Officer, Central Booking, (p.c. #50, non-exempt, replacing M. Beck), at SG-N10, effective retro to February 18, 2022, pay period 5 – Dept. 334.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve Correctional Facility items i-ii.*

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B. Human Services

- i. MH/ID/EL– Personnel requisition for full-time Caseworker 2, MH/ID/EL, (p.c. #25, non-exempt, replacing J. Rockey), at SG-N12, effective retro to February 28, 2022, pay period 6 – Dept. 561.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the personnel requisition for MH/ID/EL.*

- C. Public Defender – Chief Public Defender Dave Crowley asked the Board to consider approval of the appointment for Keith A. Miller, full-time Legal Secretary 2, Public Defender, (p.c. #08, non-exempt, replacing B. Spennati), at SG-N08A(01)–\$14.79/hour, effective May 2, 2022, pay period 10. Conditional upon satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements. Salary budget impact for 2022 \$427 - Dept. 132.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment for Keith Miller.*

VI. REPORT ON JUDICIAL PERSONNEL ITEMS

VII. REPORT ON ROW OFFICE PERSONNEL ITEMS

VIII. NON-PERSONNEL ITEMS

A. Planning and Community Development

Director Ray Stolinas asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Delegation of signing authority for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) invoices for Contract C000082286 in the amount of \$476,869 for the period of January 18, 2022 through January 17, 2026. This will delegate Raymond J. Stolinas, Director of Planning and Community Development with authority to sign all CDBG invoices for submittal to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) – Dept. 817.
- ii. Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Sub-Recipient Data Sheet for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Contract C000082286 – Dept. 817.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve Planning and Community Development items i-ii.*

IX. COVID-19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

Administrator Margaret Gray presented revisions to the following policies recommending modification of the COVID-19 mitigation measures based on new guidance issued February 25, 2022, by the CDC that updates the metrics used to determine the impact of the virus that causes COVID-19 on a community.

The Board discussed revisions the County's masking and testing policies to align with the CDC's new transmission levels and their recommended guidance to follow under each level, while inside Centre County-owned and -operated facilities. Specifically, masking is not required when the County's transmission level, as calculated by the CDC, is either at

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the medium or low levels. If the County returns to a high designation, mask wearing would be reinstated.

The CDC's updated guidance considers the number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations, hospital capacity and new COVID-19 cases to help determine the COVID-19 community level metrics.

Commissioner Pipe offered that as the number of cases and hospitalizations fluctuate, the measures in place would help to defray the effects on our hospital systems. The Correctional Facility would continue to follow guidelines for congregate care facilities. He asked that the employee testing remain available on a voluntary basis, when the County falls out of the high transmission category.

Commissioner Dershem is in support of the revisions to the masking policy but remains opposed to the testing policy. He asked if the remaining testing kits could be utilized at the Correctional Facility and Margaret will confirm.

A. COVID-19 Pandemic Universal Masking Policy

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve revisions to the COVID-19 Pandemic Universal Masking policy.*

B. COVID-19 Testing Policy

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Pipe, the Board voted to approve revisions to the COVID-19 Testing policy, with Commissioner Dershem opposed.*

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS – UPDATES

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

There were no executive sessions to report.

XII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray
Administrator