



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

Virtual – Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Board of Commissioners was convened at 10:02 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Deputy Administrator John Franek, Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith and Staff Assistant Jillian Savage.

County personnel present included Chad Joyce, Karri Hull, David Lomison, Travis Walker and Faith Schindler.

Guest present included Amy Schirf and Divine Lipscomb.

Representatives from the news media included Chris Morelli and Marley Parish.

C-Net Staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the April 6, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the April 6 Board of Commissioners meeting.*

V. PROCLAMATION

- A. Proclamation 7 of 2021 – Proclaiming the month of April 2021 as National County Government and Centre County Employee Appreciation Month.

The Board expressed their appreciation to employees for their continued efforts throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 7 of 2021.*

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- B. Proclamation 8 of 2021 – Proclaiming the week of April 19 – 23, 2021 as Justice Education Week in Centre County.

Restorative Justice Initiative (RJI) Special Projects Coordinator Divine Lipscomb thanked the Board for their support. RJI is a group of Penn State students, faculty and staff, and community stakeholders committed to empowering and supporting system impacted individual, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, through education and meaningful civil engagement.

Divine announced that several virtual events will be held throughout the week of April 19. The week's public events will begin with keynote speaker, Angela Davis.

Tuesday's event will focus on support for incarcerated and justice impacted students, including educational access. On Wednesday, Commissioner Pipe and Director of Criminal Justice Planning Karri Hull will speak on the work being done by the Reentry Coalition. Thursday will focus on carceral reform. The week will end with restorative justice. Details for these events can be found at news.psu.edu.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 8 of 2021.*

VI. COVID-19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

- A. COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program (CHIRP)

- i. Update on the CHIRP Grant Program

Commissioner Higgins announced that SEDA-COG has begun working with applicants from the second group of applications. The second application group will close Sunday, April 18. If a third round is needed it will begin April 19 and close May 16.

- ii. Announcement of CHIRP Grant Recipients

Letters of approval, including the grant award and grant contract, were emailed yesterday to the 67 approved businesses from the first round of applications. Grant checks will be issued upon the return of the grant contract. Checks will be mailed as early as next week. The names of those companies who were approved will be posted on the County website.

- B. COVID-19 County Office Protocols

Administrator Margret Gray reported that Centre County Government offices are working under full remote work status through April 16. Over the last two weeks the amount of COVID-19 cases in the County workforce has stabilized, however, cases within the community have increased. It is recommended that full remote work status be extended to Friday, April 30th. This will be reevaluated on Tuesday, April 27. It was the consensus of the Board to extend full remote work status until April 30.

VII. CONTRACTS

- A. District Attorney – Victim Advocate Faith Schindler presented a Subgrant Award Notification from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for the Rights and Services Act (RSA) and Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO)

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Grant. The project total is \$311,090 for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022 – Dept. 221.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the subgrant award notification from the PCCD.*

- B. Information Technology Services – Chief Information and Records Officer Chad Joyce introduced a contract with Global Data Consulting, LLC (GDC) to provide live online trainings for Office 365 to county employees. GDC will create training content based around the use of Microsoft Teams, One Drive, SharePoint and the Basic Office Suite that is used in Office 365. The content will be provided in four training sessions in May 2021 then two per month from June 2021 through May 2022. The total cost is \$7,465 – Dept. 142.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract with GDC to next week's Consent Agenda.*

- C. Commissioners – Administrator Margaret Gray requested the Boards consent to proceed with sale of Parcel No. 05-028A,054-,0000- from the repository of unsold properties in the amount of \$1,501 – Dept. 111.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent to proceed with the sale of Parcel No. 05-028A,054-,0000-.*

VIII. RESOLUTION

Resolution 7 of 2021 – Director of Transportation David Lomison introduced Resolution 7 of 2021, authorizing the execution of, on behalf of Centre County, certain documents associated with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation DOT Grant objects – Dept. 531.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add Resolution 7 of 2021 to next week's Consent Agenda.*

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve this week's Consent Agenda.*

- A. Financial Management – Contract renewal with Pitney Bowes for the SendPro P3000 postage machine in the Willowbank Office Building. The contract total is \$38,160.60 for the estimated period of May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2026 – Dept. 111.

B. GRANTS

- i. Planning – Updated Citizen Participation Plan, including the entitlement of Bellefonte Borough, to provide for and encourage citizen participation in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program – Dept. 817.

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- X. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
- XI. LETTER OF SUPPORT
- XII. LIQUID FUELS – FEE FOR LOCAL USE
- XIII. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray announced that later this week a community notice letter will be released by SEDA-COG announcing the opening of the federal fiscal year Community Development Block Grant Program. This letter will be sent to all municipalities in Centre County with a population less than 4,000 each. A public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 6:00 PM. This hearing will be a project development workshop for those municipalities interested in learning more about developing a proposal for this program.

- XIV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- XV. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$424,791.87 dated April 9, 2021.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated April 9, 2021.*

- XVI. C-NET REQUESTS

- XVII. REPORTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported 105186 registered voters in Centre County. The precinct of the week is precinct #17 State College Northeast with 697 registered voters. In the last election there were 533 ballots cast, for a turnout of 76.47%.

- B. Announcements

- i. Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority’s Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Amy Schirf from Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority explained this is a free event that will be held April 30 and May 1. Those who wish to attend must preregister at www.centrecounyrecycles.org.

- ii. Director of Transportation David Lomison announced that by adoption of Resolution 6 of 2021, Centre County Government is offering surplus vehicles for sale to the general public. An online public auction is being conducted by GovPlanet at www.govplanet.com from Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 10:00 AM and will remain open through Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM.

- XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

- XIX. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

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Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Virtual

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Retirement Board – 11 AM – Virtual

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Virtual

XX. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, May 3, 2021

Last day to REGISTER before the Primary.

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot.

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

MUNICIPAL PRIMARY

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 PM).

XXI. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray
Administrator