



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 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 10:01 AM by Chair of the Board Mark Higgins.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Amber Concepcion, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator John Franek Jr., and Executive Office Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel present included Deputy Administrator Natalie Corman, Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle, Jen Pettina, Sheriff Bryan Sampsel, and Chief Deputy Todd Weaver.

Guests present included Molly Kunkel, Colleen Swetland, and Michelle Johnson.

Representatives from the news media included Gary Sinderson.

C-NET staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

V. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Work Session held on April 25, 2023 and the Board of Commissioners meeting held on May 2, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the meetings held on April 25 and May 2, 2023.

VI. PROCLAMATION

Proclamation 20 of 2023 – Sheriff Bryan Sampsel and Chief Deputy Todd Weaver joined the Board in proclaiming May 15-21, 2023 as “Police Week” and May 17, 2023 as “Peace Officers’ Memorial Day” in Centre County.

Sheriff Sampsel stated there will be a memorial at the Courthouse on May 17th at noon to honor the men and women who have lost their lives in the line of duty in 2022.

Commissioner Dershem thanked all of the Sheriff’s staff for their dedication and everything they do each and every day to protect our citizens.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 20 of 2023 proclaiming May 15-21, 2023 as “Police Week and May 17, 2023 as “Peace Officers’ Memorial Day” in Centre County.

Proclamation 21 of 2023 – Molly Kunkel joined the Board in proclaiming May 10-11, 2023 as “Centre Gives Days” in Centre County.

Molly stated Centre Gives, a 36-hour event was started in 2012 and since then, \$14.6 million has been put back into the community to help over 200 local non-profits and charities. There will be an event at Talleyrand Park on Thursday, May 11th with over 30 organizations and live music from 5:30 to 9 PM, with an announcement at 8:30 PM announcing the total raised for 2023.

The Commissioners thanked Molly and her staff for all of their work for the non-profits and charities that Centre Foundation supports annually throughout Centre County.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 21 of 2023 proclaiming May 10-11, 2023 as “Centre Gives Days” in Centre County.

VII. RESOLUTION

Resolution 7 of 2023 – Jen Pettina asked the Board to approve a Resolution adopting the Tax Claim and Tax Collections Fee Schedules.

Jen stated the Sheriff’s office will collaborate with Centre County Tax Claims Bureau to provide personal service related to the upset sale and judicial sales for \$100 per person per parcel. For any unclaimed or return to claims that are undeliverable certified parcels of mail, the Sheriff’s Office will go out and visit those individuals to get signatures. Jen also stated they will be increasing the fees for return to claims by certified mail postage has increased from \$20 to \$25, return to claims by certified mail fee increased \$20 to \$25, posting company \$50 to \$55, and upset sale pre-registration fee \$20 to \$25 non-refundable.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 7 of 2023.

VIII. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATION

- A. Tax Claim – Jen Pettina asked the Board to approve a contract amendment with Palmetto Posting, Inc. which provides posting of delinquent real estate parcels in Centre County in accordance with meeting the requirements of the Real Estate Tax Sale Law. The terms of the former agreement will remain in place with the exception of an increased fee from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per posting for the calendar year of 2023 and will then increase to \$35.00 per posting in 2024. The amendment will be for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024 – Dept. 123.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contract amendment with Palmetto Posting, Inc.

B. Commissioners

Administrator John Franek Jr. asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Approve an American Rescue Plan Grant Agreement with The Nittany Valley Joint Recreation Authority to be used towards the Kepler Pool Rehabilitation and Improvement Project in the amount of \$110,000 to assist with the grant match requirements of other funding sources. The project will include structural repairs, decking, chemical systems, bathhouse, pool amenities, ADA parking, and an ADA changing area – Dept. 120.
- ii. Colleen Swetland and Michelle Johnson asked the Board to approve an American Rescue Plan Grant Agreement with the Penns Valley Park and Recreation Board to be used towards capital improvements to the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park and Pool in the amount of \$25,000. Project funding shall be utilized towards the yearly patching and painting of the pool, concrete decking repair, maintenance of the pump and filtration system, and pool lighting improvements – Dept 120.
- iii. Approve an American Rescue Plan Grant Agreement with the Mountain Top Swimming Pool Association to be used towards capital improvements to the Mountain Top Swimming pool in the amount of \$25,000. Project funding shall be utilized towards the replacement of the diving boards, painting and patching of the large pool, and patching of the baby pool – Dept. 120

Commissioner Higgins read a statement from Jennifer Nastase with Mountain Top Swimming Pool Association stating that they are grateful to receive this grant to kick off of the 2023 year. For the last 54 years, the Mountain Top Swimming Pool has been a place that gives the community an oasis. The money will be a great start for renovations that are needed.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the American Rescue Plan Grant Agreements i-iii pending Solicitor review.

Human Services

- C. Adult Services – Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve a contract with Service Access & Management, Inc. to provide administrative assistance to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Homeless Prevention Program through the Office of Adult Services. The contract total is \$96,014.50 funded as follows: Federal \$96,014.50 for the period of December 7, 2022 to June 6, 2024 – Dept 501.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract with Service Access & Management, Inc. to next week's Consent Agenda.

- D. MH/ID EI- D&A – Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve a contract Addendum #1 with Peerstar, LLC to provide additional funds for support services in the amount of \$1,000. This will increase the service provider's contract from \$3,500 to \$4,500. The contract total is \$4,500 funded as follows: State \$4,293 and County Match \$207 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 561.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract addendum #1 with Peerstar, LLC to next week's Consent Agenda.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Centre County Correctional Facility – Contract Addendum #2 with Global Tel*Link Corporation d/b/a ViaPath Technologies to extend the current inmate phone agreement for three additional years. GTL will provide at no cost a 1:1 tablet to inmate ratio as well as enhancement of the tablet program. Also provided in the tablet enhancement program at no cost is the US mail scanning solution, education suite courses, the option of premium movies/videos to be purchased by inmates, and inbound video messages to be sent to inmates' tablets that have been previously approved by CCCF staff. The contract total is \$108,000 per year/ \$9,000 per month for the period of September 20, 2025 to September 20, 2028 – Dept 333.

Human Services

B. MH/ID EI- D&A

- i. Letter of Agreement with Philipsburg Osceola Area School District to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- ii. Letter of Agreement with Penns Valley Area School District to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- iii. Letter of Agreement with State College Area School District to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- iv. Letter of Agreement with Bellefonte Area School District to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- v. Letter of Agreement with Bald Eagle Area School District to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- vi. Letter of Agreement with Young Scholars of Central PA Charter School to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- vii. Letter of Agreement with Centre Learning Community (CLC) Charter School to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.
- viii. Letter of Agreement with Sugar Valley Rural Charter School to provide provision of drug and alcohol and/or mental health services to the school and its students through

the Student Assistance Program. There is no contract total for the period of September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 – Dept 561/562.

- C. Transportation – Consider approval of the Shared Ride rate increase for FY 23-24. This is calculated to be an average fare of \$23.15 and is projected to increase the FY 23-24 Shared Ride revenue by nearly \$150,000. The Shared Ride rate increase will go into effect July 1, 2023 and has already been approved by PennDOT – Dept. 531.

Distance (miles)	Current Rate (Full Fare)	New Rate (Full Fare)
0-5.9	\$17.50	\$19.50
6-11.9	\$20.50	\$22.50
12-21.9	\$22.50	25.50
22-31.9	\$27.00	\$29.00
32-49.9	\$32.00	\$34.00
50-60.9	\$50.00	\$50.00
70+	(new tier eff. 7/1/2023)	\$75.00

-----END OF CONSENT-----

X. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BOARD	NAME	ACTION	TERM
Drug and Alcohol Planning Council	Linda Meek	Resignation	January 1, 2021 – May 9, 2023

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ABC resignation of Linda Meek from the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council.

XI. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$1,261,549.78 dated May 5, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated May 5, 2023.

XII. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator John Franek Jr. reported various remodeling and/or construction projects that will be happening around the County’s facilities. John stated later this week the furniture for the Willowbank library will be delivered and installed, the lobby at the Willowbank building is being reconfigured for security reasons as well as better traffic flow, we will be going out for bid for the Willowbank parking lot paving project so parking may be more difficult, Valentine Street Houses have gone out to bid for demolition, the Courthouse roof of the 1963 addition roof will be replaced this summer, this are also a lot of trees and shrubbery that have been removed around the Courthouse, the fountains at the Courthouse will have a protective powder applied and interior painting occurring at the Courthouse.

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XIII. REPORTS – ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported a total of 99,777 registered voters in Centre County. The Precinct of the week is Precinct #9 Millheim Borough. In the last Election there were 625 registered voters with 415 ballots cast for a voter turnout of 66.40%.

B. Announcements

- i. The Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 has been CANCELLED due to the Municipal Primary Election.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

XV. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Board of Commissioners Work Session – 11:00 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Elections – 1:00 PM – Willowbank 146

Thursday, May 11, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

XVI. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously adjourn the meeting at 10:43 AM.

ATTEST: _____

John Franek Jr.

Administrator