



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

Virtual – Zoom

To join the meeting please visit: www.centrecountypa.gov/zoom.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Board of Commissioners was convened at 10:01 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 Jr., Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith and Staff Assistant Jillian Savage.

County personnel present included Controller Jason Moser, Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman, Betsy Barndt, Lee Sheaffer, David Lomison, Faith Ryan, Ray Stolinias, Sheriff Bryan Sampsel and Travis Walker.

Guest present included Cindy Hahn, Tom Charles and Molly Kunkel.

Representatives from the news media included Chris Morelli.

C-Net staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the May 4, 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 May 4 Board of Commissioners meeting.*

V. COVID-19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

Mount Nittany Health System Update – Executive Vice President System Development and Chief Strategy Officer Tom Charles

The amount of new cases of COVID-19 and Hospitalizations related to COVID-19 in Centre County has started to steadily decrease.

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Mount Nittany has vaccinated and scheduled more than 42,000 doses of vaccine. While the demand for vaccines has decreased, those who are considering the vaccine are strongly encouraged to register through the Mount Nittany site, or other organizations with available doses.

This week celebrates Nurses week and Mount Nittany Health week in appreciation of the extraordinary work the staff has preformed through the year.

VI. PROCLAMATION

- A. Proclamation 16 of 2021 – Proclaiming May 9-15, 2021 as National Police Week and May 15, 2021 as Peace Officers’ Memorial Day in Centre County. Sheriff Bryan Sampsel reported that this year 362 men and women gave their lives in the line of duty. The Board thanked the Sheriff and other law enforcement agencies for their service to ensure the safety of the community.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 16 of 2021.*

- B. Proclamation 17 of 2021 – Proclaiming May 11-12, 2021 as Centre Gives Days in Centre County. Molly Kunkel thanked the Board for this proclamation.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 17 of 2021.*

VII. PRESENTATION

C-NET Update – Executive Director Cynthia Hahn

In 2020 Virtual meetings and hybrid meetings provided unique audio and video challenges. C-NET Staff produced 451 programs, 64 of which were sponsored by Centre County Government, in 2020. This represents a 6% decrease in overall programming from 2019. C-NET programming can be viewed on Channels 7 and 98, cnet.org, Roku, Apple TV, and on C-Net’s YouTube channel, CnetCentreCounty.

VIII. CONTRACTS/AUTHORIZATIONS

- A. Facilities Management – Director of Facilities Management Lee Sheaffer introduced an agreement with Rentokil North America d/b/a J.C. Ehrlich for commercial pest management maintenance at Centre Crest Building, 502 East Howard Street. The contract total is \$360 for the period of June 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 – Dept. 621.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the agreement with Rentokil North America d/b/a J.C. Ehrlich to May 20 Consent Agenda.*

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B. Human Services

- i. Children and Youth – Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman asked the Board to consider the submission of an ACT 148 report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the period of July 1, 2020 through March 30, 2021 – Dept. 511.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the submission of the ACT 148 report.*

- C. Commissioners – Deputy Administrator John Franek Jr. requested consent to proceed with sale of two parcels from the Repository of Unsold Properties for the total amount of \$3,000. Properties with delinquent tax bills that remain unsold after an upset sale and judicial sale are placed in repository. The local taxing entities, which includes the school district, local municipality and County, must provide consent before the sale of a repository property. The sale will place the parcels back on tax roll – Dept. 111.

- i. Parcel No. 04-003A,061-,0000- in Orviston, PA in the amount of \$1,500 – Dept. 111.
- ii. Parcel No. 04-003A,061A-,0000- in Orviston, PA in the amount of \$1,500 – Dept. 111.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the consent to proceed with sale of the properties from the Repository of Unsold Properties to next week's Consent Agenda.*

IX. GRANTS

D. Human Services

- i. Adult Services

Director of Adult Services Faith Ryan presented the following items:

1. Contract with Department of Housing and Urban Development Fiscal Year 2020 Scope of Work to continue the Centre County Rapid Re-Housing Program. The contract total is \$212,512 which is Federally funded for the period of October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 – Dept. 501.
2. Environmental Review which is required for a new contract with the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for Emergency Solutions Grant – CARES ACT 2 (ESG-CV2). This new funding streaming will expand upon the existing Rapid Re-Housing program in Centre County. The total is \$182,691 which is Federally funded – Dept. 501.

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3. Contract with Central PA Community Action to serve as an Application Assistance Hub for residents seeking additional assistance and support when submitting applications to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). The contract rate is \$100 per hour which is Federally funded for the period of March 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Dept. 501.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve Adult Services items 1-3.*

X. 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. Court Administration - Contract renewal with the Center for Alternatives in Community Justice (CACJ). The contract includes the pre-trial release program (\$136,086), Youth Aid Panel (\$2,500) and Mediation Custody Court Program. The CACJ is requesting that time spent in court and travel expense be paid (\$3,969). The pre-trial release program is funded equally by the Court and Correctional Facility (\$68,043). The contract total is \$142,555 for the period of January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 – Dept. 271.
- A. Human Services
 - i. Transportation – Acquisition of four vehicles for the County Business Fleet, each being replacement vehicles. The purchase of these vehicles will be provided as a Penn State In-Kind Service in the total all-inclusive amount of \$39,160 – Dept. 53 1/2.
 1. 2014 Dodge Caravan with 33,000 miles all-inclusive amount of \$11,192.50 – Dept. 531.
 2. 2014 Jeep Patriot with 61,513 miles all-inclusive amount of \$9,322.50 – Dept. 532.
 3. 2014 Jeep Patriot with 63,663 miles all-inclusive amount of \$9,322.50 – Dept. 532.
 4. 2014 Jeep Patriot with 63,489 miles all-inclusive amount of \$9,322.50 – Dept. 532.
- B. Emergency Management – PEMA Directive 2019-02 Attachment 3A County Agreement with the Eagle Hazardous Materials Team to affirm county sponsorship as required for Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) recertification – Dept. 352.
- C. Resolution 8 of 2021 – Adopting the Centre County 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Dept. 351.

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D. GRANTS

- i. Planning & Community Development - Execution of revised financial documents, RDA-300 and RDA-301 Forms, outlining the funding sources for the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Project (RACP) for Titan Park Plant 1 Improvements – Phase 1 – Dept. 151.

XI. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

XII. LETTER OF SUPPORT

XIII. LIQUID FUELS – FEE FOR LOCAL USE

XIV. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray announced that yesterday the United States Department of Treasury released the guidelines for the allowable expenditures and allocations that may be made with the American Rescue Plan.

XV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Planning & Community Development – Director of Planning and Community Development Ray Stolinas presented the Notice of Funding Availability Program for the Centre County Housing Trust Fund (Act 137 of 1992). This program intends to assist housing projects that serve eligible individuals with gross household income of below 100% the Area Median Income (AMI) for Centre County – Dept. 815.

At the March 2 meeting the Board decided to consider how other counties have designed their Act 137 Programs, specifically annual application processes compared to rolling application processes.

The Pennsylvania Housing Financing Agency (PHFA) performed a study to determine how the Act 137 funds were used throughout the Commonwealth. From the responses 29 counties, the study found that most counties accept applications on an informal or rolling basis. The funds were commonly utilized for new affordable housing production, first time home buyer closing cost and down payment assistance, home rehabilitation and repair, and Federal or State match or leverage. The Board decided a work session would be best to have a more detailed discussion of options for the program.

XVI. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$8,044,618.89 dated May 7, 2021.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated May 7, 2021.*

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XVII. C-NET REQUESTS

- A. Sponsorship of a public service announcement for the Centre County Office of Planning and Community Development's Emergency Broadband Benefit to be advertised May 16 through May 22, 2021.
- B. Livestream of the 2021 Municipal Primary Election Vote-By-Mail Processing Room at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center to be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Wednesday, May 19, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve C-NET Sponsorships for the Emergency Broadband Benefit and the Vote-By-Mail Processing Room.*

XVIII. REPORTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported 105,071 registered voters in Centre County. The precinct of the week is precinct #21 State College Borough South East with 1,145 registered voters. In the last election there were 905 ballots cast, for a turnout of 79.04%.

B. Announcements

- i. The Centre County Board of Commissioners' Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2021 is cancelled for the Municipal Primary Election.
- ii. Centre County Government Offices will be closed on Monday, May 31 for Memorial Day.

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

XX. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Virtual

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Prison Board of Inspectors – 8 AM – Virtual

Employee Benefits Trust – 11 AM – Virtual

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

CANCELLED - Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Virtual

Records Improvement Committee – 2 PM - Virtual

Thursday, May 20, 2021

Board of Commissioners/Salary Board – 10 AM – Virtual

Finance Committee – 9 AM – Virtual

XXI. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

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

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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 PM).

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

First day to REGISTER after Primary.

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 PM on May 17)

XXII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:17 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray
Administrator