



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022, 11:00 A.M.

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

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The public work session of the Board of Commissioners was convened at 11:07 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe (Zoom), Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator John Franek Jr., and Executive Office Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel present included Controller Jason Moser, Joni MacIntyre, Liz Lose, Travis Walker, Ray Stolinas, Betsy Barndt and Peter Butler.

Guests present included Kim Stank.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Kim Stank gave a brief overview of the ARPA funds, started off with \$31.4 million and currently have committed \$11.8 million of the funds. The revenue lost for 2021 will soon be done.

Betsy Barndt provided an update on the Affordable Housing Study. The rural regions had an additional three stakeholder meetings and reached out specifically to those regions. Realtors have also provided numerous market topographies and assisted rental inventory. The draft analysis is due July 12th. The draft plan is due August 22nd.

Ray Stolinas stated all the mobile home parks addresses have been provided to Marjorie to help with the study and she is also requesting a list of zoning ordinance standards. Ray stated they have also provided the building permit trends within the last ten years as well. Overall, there is a lot of data gathering happening at the moment.

The Planning Department staff met with Mitzi Gallagher from SEDA-COG and she stated they have a surplus of admin funds for \$39,000. The Board had already authorized to pay for some of this plan through the admin funds that are available.

Peter Butler and Liz Lose gave an update on the Broadband Study updates. Peter distributed a map of where they have received responses from residents so far. They are very pleased on the turn out they have received. Liz stated there should be at least two more invoices to

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come in relating to the study. On May 20th, Centre County was represented in testimony to the Center for Rural Pennsylvania on Broadband. Most of the Counties are using their ARPA funds for Broadband studies and every County are at different levels with Broadband. The public participation on the online survey was over 2,000 responses which was significantly higher than other Counties.

Kim asked the Board if they wanted to move any numbers for Centre Crest from the proposed to committed column and the Board decided they would not move any numbers over at this point.

Administrator John Franek Jr. stated we received a request from North Central Pennsylvania Conservancy related to erosion on the lake side at Bald Eagle State Park. They wanted to reach out to see if any funds were available from the ARPA funds for this project.

The Board stated at this time we are currently committed to quite a few projects and would like to know more about the issue and could then refer them to other agencies that may be able to help them out with the project.

IV. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

V. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 AM.

ATTEST:

John Franek Jr.

Administrator