



CENTRE COUNTY
SALARY BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, July 15, 2021, 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 10:00 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Director of Human Resources Kristen Simkins, Controller Jason Moser, and Staff Assistant Jillian Savage

County personnel present included Sheriff Sampsel, Dave Lomison, Lee Sheaffer, and Travis Walker.

Guests present included Cheryl Little, David Knepp, and Corey Troutman.

Representatives from the news media included Halie Kines, and Gary Sinderson

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the Thursday, July 1, 2021 Salary Board meeting.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Controller Moser, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Salary Board meeting minutes from Thursday, July 1, 2021.*

IV. ACTION ON PERSONNEL ITEMS

Sheriff – Sheriff Sampsel joined the Salary Board to request approval of the rate for Lindsey Spayd, Deputy Sheriff/Airport Security 2, Sheriff at SG-N11B(02)--\$16.22/hour retro to July 5, 2021, pay period 15. Sheriff Sampsel is promoting Ms. Spayd to full-time Deputy Sheriff/Airport Security 2, Sheriff (p.c. #35, non-exempt, replacing R. Bowes) effective retro to July 5, 2021. Salary budget savings for 2021 \$17,019, annualized salary impact for 2022 \$1,229 – Dept. 211.

Action: *On a motion by Sheriff Sampsel, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the rate for Lindsey Spayd.*

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V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Emergency increase in hourly rates for 24-hour operations personnel.

The Board discussed the current need to not only recruit and retain Correctional Facility, and 911 employees, but thank them for their work as well. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) includes sections and provisions that allow for premium pay to recruit and retain individuals in critical sectors. An increase in hourly rate would allow the County to be included in the competitive job market as work search requirements return in Pennsylvania for individuals on unemployment.

Commissioner Dershem suggested a \$5/hour increase to be implemented as soon as possible. This would increase the Correctional officers starting rate to \$20/hour. The Board agreed with this suggestion. This could be reconsidered following the conclusion of the Salary Study being performed for Centre County Government.

The Board discussed the unique challenges Centre County faces with having multiple Correctional facilities and 911 Centers in the area.

The Board agreed with Director of Human Resources Kristen Simkins suggestion to start the increase on Sunday, July 18, 2021 to allow for constancy in the pay period.

On a motion by Commissioner Dershem, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously approve the hourly rate increase of \$5/hour for the Correctional Facility, and Emergency Communications 911 Staff effective July 18, 2021, to be reconsidered following the conclusion of the Centre County Government Salary Study.

David Knepp offered public comment regarding the salary study.

Cheryl Little offered public comment to thank the Board for approving the increase.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Controller Moser, seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 AM.

ATTEST:

Jason Moser
Controller