



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021, 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 Centre County Board of Commissioners was convened at 11:00 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Deputy Administrator John Franek, Jr., Controller Jason Moser, and Office Floater Jolene Kitko.

County Personnel present included Terri Fisher, Elizabeth Lose and Travis Walker.

Guests present included Kim Stank of Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

### III. COVID 19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

American Rescue Plan (ARP)

Administrator Margaret Gray spoke reported [americanrescueplan@centrecountypa.gov](mailto:americanrescueplan@centrecountypa.gov) has been created to receive emails for ARP related inquiries. While Administrator Margaret Gray, Deputy Administrator John Franek, Jr., and Kim Stank will be monitoring the email, initially, John will respond to requests sent to the email.

A press release was sent out this morning regarding the new Centre County Commissioners Small Business Grant program. Applications begin July 20, 2021. SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG) will be assisting the Centre County Commissioners by receiving and reviewing applications.

ARP will continue to maintain funding for vaccination providers.

#### i. Broadband Projects

Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development Elizabeth Lose reported that she had immediately heard back from four of the six consulting firms contacted. Before selecting a consulting firm, a strategic plan and process needs to be in place. before selecting a consulting firm. Elizabeth and Margaret will meet to discuss this.

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ii. Centre Crest

A meeting with the Architect will take place today to discuss how ARP funding may be used for the what expenditures ARP funding may be used.

Commissioner Dershem remarked that the building is solid but dated. He asked about operational costs and how the building will best fit the needs of the County.

John stated that the beginning phase is between three to six months. He will confirm a timeline with the Architect.

Commissioner Dershem stated that cost estimates are needed on Centre Crest, Broadband, other projects and personnel costs in order to accurately track spending.

Kim stated that Centre County is moving along quicker than most counties and that most of the caution comes from the unknown of the infrastructure bill and the state budget.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

V. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Dershem, seconded by Commissioner Pipe, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 AM.

ATTEST:

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Margaret N. Gray  
Administrator