



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

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

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.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Deputy Administrator John Franek Jr., and Staff Assistant Jillian Savage.

County personnel present included Sheriff Bryan Sampsel, Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman, Kristen Simkins, Dave Lomison, Chad Joyce, Ray Stolinas, Chris Schnure, and Michael Crocker.

Guests present included Brayden Button and Mitzi Gallagher-Long.

C-Net Staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the June 8, 2021 work session, and the July 27, 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 June 8, 2021 work session, and the July 27, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting.*

V. COVID-19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

COVID-19 Pandemic Policy on Universal Masking – Update Consideration

Administrator Margaret Gray reported that the Centre County has had an increase in positive COVID-19 case. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) uses a formula based on the number of positive cases and the population size to place counties into a transmission rate category of low, moderate, substantial or high. The CDC recommends indoor masking of all vaccinated or unvaccinated individuals in counties categorized as substantial or high. Centre County is categorized as substantial at this time. In the past the County has followed CDC recommendations for County buildings.

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Director of Human Resources Kristen Simkins reported that the Universal Masking Policy was sunset June 28, 2021 in accordance with the CDC masking recommendations at the time.

The Board discussed the changes included in the updated policy. Masks will not be provided to employees, since they had been provided previously. If an employee refuses to mask they will be notified that they need to comply, or they will be sent home as it is a requirement for the building. The policy will also extend masking requirements to County Vehicles.

The Board discussed under what conditions masking requirements should be reconsidered. It was the consensus of the Board to review the category and transmission rate designated to the county by the CDC when evaluating masking requirements. Commissioner Dershem suggested the policy be reviewed September 1, 2021.

It was the consensus of the Board that the policy is necessary at this time.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to implement the Centre County Governments COVID-19 Pandemic Policy on Universal Masking effective Wednesday, August 11, 2021 to be reviewed at the Board of Commissioners Meeting closest to September 1, 2021.

VI. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Administrator Margaret Gray introduced an agreement with Happy Valley Adventure Bureau (HVAB) for the Centre County American Rescue Plan Tourism Program. The award total is \$250,000, which will be funded through the American Rescue Plan, beginning July 1, 2021 – Dept. 120.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agreement with HVAB.*

VII. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Information Technology Services – Chief information and Records Officer Chad Joyce presented a request for proposals (RFP) to procure Information Technology Managed Services for Centre County Government – Dept. 142.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve advertisement of the RFP – IT Managed Services.*

VIII. CONTRACTS/AUTHORIZATIONS

- A. Information Technology Services – Chief information and Records Officer Chad Joyce introduced a letter to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) requesting centercountyvotes.com be made a .gov domain at no cost to the County. A redirect will be created to transfer users from centrecountyvotes.com to centrecountyvotes.gov – Dept. 142.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the letter to CISA to next week's Consent Agenda.*

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B. Planning & Community Development

Chris Schnure provided the Board with a presentation for the following items:

- i. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the "Preliminary Land Development Plan - Belle Rose Townhomes" located in Benner Township; CCPCDO File No. 86-21. This proposal represents a Preliminary Plan submission showing the development of ten (10) residential townhouse units and corresponding infrastructure to service the proposed land development activity located along Benner Pike (State Route 0150) approximately 200 feet south of its intersection with Clemens Lane (T-776) – Dept. 151.
- ii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the "Preliminary Subdivision Plan for Harvest Meadows" located in Benner Township; CCPCDO File No. 85-21. This proposal represents a Preliminary Plan submission showing the subdivision of 322 lots, comprising 81 single family detached homes, 236 townhomes, and 5 open space lots with corresponding infrastructure consisting of approximately 88 acres. This subdivision is located along Fillmore Road, approximately 900 feet from its intersection with Fox Hill Road – Dept. 151.
- iii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the "Final Land Development - Aaronsburg Dollar General" located in Haines Township; CCPCDO File No. 89-21. This proposal constitutes a Final Plan submission showing the development of a single commercial building, being 70' x 128' (8,960 square feet) along with corresponding infrastructure (i.e., lighting, stormwater facilities, on-site sanitary sewer, sidewalk, etc.) on Tax Parcel No. 23-3A-3B – Dept. 151.
- iv. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the "Final Land Development Plans for the Centre County Airport Authority Maintenance Building" located in Benner Township; CCPCDO File No. 94-21. This proposal constitutes a Final Plan submission showing the development of a single building intended to be used as a maintenance garage and being approximately 4,332 square feet along with corresponding infrastructure (i.e., lighting, water, sewer, etc.) on Tax Parcel No. 12-4-67 – Dept. 151.
- v. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the "Final Land Development Plans – Sandy Ridge II Wind Project" located in Taylor Township; CCPCDO File No. 77-21. This proposal constitutes a Final Plan submission showing the development of four (4) additional wind turbines to the Centre County portion of the Sandy Ridge Wind Farm which contains nine (9) existing wind turbines (in Taylor Township) – Dept. 151.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add Planning items i-v to next week's Consent Agenda.*

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C. Human Services

- i. Aging – Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman introduced a contract renewal with Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority for the Active Adult Center. The contract total is \$356,141 which is State funded for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024 – Dept. 521.

Natalie reported that Senior Centers reopened in mid-July 2021. In 2019 the Center served 563 individuals, 30% of whom were from outside of the Centre Region area, and 4,000 meals. It is projected that the Center will serve 350 center region residents in 2022. The Center hopes to add a variety of additional programs including master gardeners and silver sneakers. The location will remain at the Nittany Mall.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract renewal with Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority to next week's Consent Agenda.*

ii. Children & Youth Services

Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman provided an overview of the following items:

1. Contract with In Gods Hands Daycare to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$7,000, which is funded as follows: State \$5,600 and County \$1,400, for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 - Dept. 511.
2. Contract renewal with KinderCare Day Care to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$6,600, which is funded as follows: State \$5,280 and County \$1,320, for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 - Dept. 511.
3. Contract renewal with Step by Step School for Early Learning to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$1,493, which is funded as follows: State \$1,194 and County \$299, for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 - Dept. 511.
4. Contract with A Journey to You, LLC to provide therapy sessions. The contract total is \$1,000, which is funded as follows: State \$800 and County \$200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
5. Contract renewal with In Gods Hands Daycare to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$15,000, which is funded as follows: State \$12,000 and County \$3,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
6. Contract Renewal with Child Development & Family Council of Centre County, Inc. to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$6,500, which is funded as follows: State \$5,200 and County \$1,300, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
7. Contract Renewal with Step by Step School for Early Learning to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$10,956, which is funded as follows: State \$8,765 and County \$2,191, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.

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8. Contract Renewal with Wardell & Associates, Inc. to provide FICS, family service aid, reunification, and independent living. The contract total is \$2,786,607, which is funded as follows: Federal \$305,919, State \$1,984,550 and County \$496,138, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
9. Contract renewal with Alternative Living Solutions to provide transitional and supervised independent living for dependent/delinquent youth. The contract total is \$125,000, which is funded as follows: State \$100,000 and County \$25,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
10. Contract renewal with Cornell Abraxas Group, LLC. to provide residential services. The contract total is \$10,000, which is funded as follows: State \$6,000 and County \$4,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
11. Contract renewal with Merakey Pennsylvania to provide foster care services. The contract total is \$225,000, which is funded as follows: State \$180,000 and County \$45,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
12. Contract renewal with YMCA of Centre County Penns Valley to provide daycare services. The contract total is \$2,000, which is funded as follows: State \$1,600 and County \$400, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
13. Contract renewal with YMCA of Centre County Bellefonte to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$10,000 which is funded as follows: State \$8,000 and County \$2,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
14. Contract renewal with YMCA of Centre County State College to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$2,500, which is funded as follows: State \$2,000 and County \$500, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
15. Contract renewal with KinderCare Day Care to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$6,000, which is funded as follows: State \$4,800 and County \$1,200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
16. Contract renewal with Tipton Baptist Church and Daycare to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$15,000, which is funded as follows: State \$12,000 and County \$3,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
17. Contract renewal with Kids Court Childcare and Learning Center, Inc. to provide childcare services. The contract total is \$1,000, which is funded as follows: State \$800 and County \$200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
18. Contract renewal with Dr. H. Peter Montminy, MidStep Centers for Child Development P.C. dba A Mindful Village, to provide counseling services. The contract total is \$1,000, which is funded as follows: State \$800 and County \$200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.

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19. Contract renewal with Pamela McCloskey to provide counseling services. The contract total is \$6,000, which is funded as follows: State \$4,800 and County \$1,200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
20. Contract renewal with Aimee Senott, Project Compass, to provide counseling services. The contract total is \$12,000, which is funded as follows: State \$9,600 and County \$2,400, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
21. Contract renewal with Sign Language Specialists of Western PA to provide sign language interpreters. The contract total is \$3,500, which is funded as follows: State \$2,800 and County \$700, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
22. Contract renewal with Children's Advocacy Center to provide forensic interviews. The contract total is \$24,000, which is funded as follows: State \$19,200 and County \$4,800, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
23. Contract renewal with the Centre County Public Defender's Office to provide Guardian Ad Litem services for dependent/delinquent youth. The agreement total is \$204,362, which is funded as follows: State \$102,181 and County \$102,181, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
24. Contract renewal with Claire Kimmel, Esquire to provide legal services. The contract total is \$25,000, which is funded as follows: State \$20,000 and County \$5,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
25. Contract renewal with Bobbi Rabuck, Esquire of Stover McGlaughlin to provide legal services. The contract total is \$30,000, which is funded as follows: State \$24,000 and County \$6,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
26. Contract renewal with H. Denning Mason, Esquire to provide legal services. The contract total is \$15,000, which is funded as follows: State \$12,000 and County \$3,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
27. Contract renewal with Stephanie Cooper, Esquire to provide legal services. The contract total is \$8,000, which is funded as follows: State \$6,400 and County \$1,600, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
28. Agreement with Avanco International, Inc. for the Child Accounting and Profile System (CAPS) application service. The agreement total is \$34,989.96, which is funded as follows: State \$23,093.37 and County \$11,896.59, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.
29. Consulting services addendum with Avanco International, Inc. to the Child Accounting and Profile System (CAPS) service provider agreement. The addendum total is \$30,000, which is funded as follows: State \$19,800 and County \$10,200, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 - Dept. 511.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add Children & Youth Services items 1-29 to next week's Consent Agenda.*

iii. MH/ID/EI

Human Services Administrator Natalie Corman presented the following items:

1. Letter of Agreement with Bauer's All About Kids, LLC to provide Early Intervention services including occupational and physical therapy, speech instruction and pathology. The agreement total is \$50,000, which is funded as follows: State \$45,000 and County Match \$5,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.
2. Letter of Agreement with Elizabeth Beckman-Nemenz to provide Early Intervention services including physical therapy. The agreement total is \$7,000, which is funded as follows: State \$6,300 and County Match \$700, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.
3. Letter of Agreement with Strawberry Fields, Inc. to provide Early Intervention services including occupational and physical therapy, special instruction, IFSP teaming and interpretation. The agreement total is \$400,000, which is funded as follows: State \$360,000 and County Match \$40,000, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.
4. Letter of Agreement with Carl Frels to provide intellectual disability services including certified deaf interpreter services. The agreement total is \$8,000, which is funded as follows: State \$7,631 and County Match \$369, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.
5. Letter of Agreement with Care For People Plus, Inc. to provide intellectual disability services including in-home community supports, homemaker services, and respite care. The agreement total is \$23,000, which is funded as follows: State \$21,940 and County Match \$1,060, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.
6. Letter of Agreement with Susquehanna Software, Inc. to provide quarterly CCRI submission, annual maintenance, custom programming, quarterly HCSIS and Pelican maintenance, and CCRI Web server housing. The agreement total is \$46,800, which is funded as follows: State \$44,643 and County Match \$2,157, for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 – Dept. 561.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the MH/ID/EI letters of agreement to next week's Consent Agenda.*

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iv. Transportation

Director Dave Lomison introduced the following items:

1. Adjustments to the client co-pay rate for the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Program. This will increase the rate from \$3.50 per trip to \$4.00 per trip to be in compliance with PennDOT regulations that require the County to offer the same co-pay rate as other ADA providers within Centre County for ADA para-transit trips. The new rate is effective September 1, 2021 to all PWD clients – Dept. 531.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the adjustments to the client co-pay rates for the Persons with Disabilities Program.*

2. Notification to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to request consideration of a change in rate for the Shared Ride Program. This will affect trips of 50 or more miles effective October 1, 2021 – Dept. 531.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the notification to PennDOT to next week's Consent Agenda.*

IX. GRANTS

A. Human Services

- i. Transportation – Director Dave Lomison introduced the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) fourth quarter report for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 – Dept. 531.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the FY 20-21 MATP report to next week's Consent Agenda.*

B. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

SEDA-Council of Government's Project Coordinator Mitzi Gallagher-Long presented the following CDBG items:

- i. Resolution 12 of 2021 - Authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Federal Fiscal Year 2021 under the CDBG Program, and further certifying compliance with the requirements of said program – Dept. 817.
- ii. CDBG Program Disclosure Report - Dept. 817.
- iii. CDBG General Application Certification on behalf of the Bellefonte Borough – Dept. 817.
- iv. 2021 CDBG General Application Certification for Centre County Government – Dept. 817.

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v. Language Access Plan Certification submission to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) as required for implementation of the CDBG Program. The County will complete a Language Access Plan which delineates how programs or activities will be carried out, by whom, and who will monitor the effectiveness of the activities for possible revision – Dept. 817.

***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve CDBG items i-v.*

X. CONSENT AGENDA

XI. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

XII. LETTER OF SUPPORT

XIII. LIQUID FUELS – FEE FOR LOCAL USE

XIV. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

XV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

XVI. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$5,374,920.73 dated August 6, 2021.

***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated August 6, 2021.*

XVII. C-NET REQUESTS

XVIII. REPORTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported 104,807 registered voters in Centre County. The precinct of the week is precinct #32 State College West 2 with 864 registered voters. In the last election there were 411 ballots cast, for a turnout of 47.57%.

B. Announcements

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray reported that the Board will need to meet in executive session for a personnel matter following this meeting.

XX. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 12, 2021

Prison Board of Inspectors – 8 AM - Virtual

Board of Commissioners/Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Retirement Board – 11 AM - Willowbank 146

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Commissioners Work Session – American Rescue Plan - 11 AM – Willowbank 146

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- XXI. ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS
- XXII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS
- XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to move into executive session for a personnel matter at 11:00 AM.

The Board came out of executive session at 11:28 AM

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray
Administrator