



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 10:00 A.M.

Willowbank Office Building
420 Holmes Street, Room 146
Belleville, 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 Mark Higgins.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Amber Concepcion, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator John Franek Jr. and Executive Officer Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel present included Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle, Beth Lechman, Ryan Smeltzer, Jody Lair, Chris Schnure, District Attorney Bernie Cantorna, and Tiffany Rainey.

Guests present included Jennifer Pencek and Ena Foreman.

Representatives from the news media included Maria Cade and Gary Sinderson.

C-NET staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions made to the Agenda.

V. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Board of Commissioners meeting held on October 3, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 3, 2023.

VI. PROCLAMATION

Proclamation 44 of 2023 – Jennifer Pencek and Ena Foreman with Centre Safe joined the Board in proclaiming October 2023 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in Centre County.

Jennifer is the Executive Director of Centre Safe and thanked the Commissioners for honoring Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Centre Safe is a safety net for anyone that is affected by Domestic Awareness. The theme of the month is “Everyone knows someone”, and Jennifer stated in 2022 alone they have supported more than 900 victims in Centre County. More than 10 million adults experience domestic violence in the United

States annually and it effects individuals of all backgrounds. Jennifer stated it often takes a victim of domestic violence seven times before they leave their abuser. The Commissioners thanked both Jennifer and Ena for the work Centre Safe does to keep individuals in Centre County safe.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 44 of 2023 proclaiming October 2023 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in Centre County.

VII. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATION

- A. Probation – Ryan Smeltzer asked the Board to approve a contract renewal with Central Counties Youth Center to provide a 14-bed regional juvenile detention facility. The contact total is \$222,085 funded as follows: State \$111,042.50 and County \$111,042.50 for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 – Dept 305.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract with Central Counties Youth Center to next week's Consent Agenda.

- B. Emergency Management Agency

Jody Lair asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Consider acceptance of the FFY 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funds. This grant provides reimbursement for salary and benefits for EMA staff. The grant total is \$75,534 funded as follows: Federal \$75,534 for the period October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2025 – Dept 351.
- ii. Consider acceptance of the Hazardous Material Response Fund (HMRF) Grant funds. The grant total is \$10,923 funded as follows: State \$10,923 for the period of July 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024 – Dept 351.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Emergency Management Agency items i-ii.

- C. Planning and Community Development – Chris Schnure asked the Board to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the "Final Land Development Plan – Sandy Ridge II Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Building Expansion"; CCPCDO File No. 125-23. This proposal constitutes as a Final Plan submission showing a 6,120 square foot building expansion to the existing Operations and Maintenance building which is used to support the Sandy Ridge Wind farm located along the eastern boundary of Big Fill Run (Private) and northern boundary of Garner Lane (T-306), approximately 1.5 miles west of its intersection with the Tyrone Pike (S.R. 0350) in Taylor Township – Dept 151.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Memorandum of Understanding for the Sandy Ridge II Operations and Maintenance Building Expansion to next week's Consent Agenda.

- D. Elections – Beth Lechman asked the Board to approve the acceptance of the Election Integrity Grant Program (EIPG) funds. The grant total is \$529,688 funded as follows: State \$529,688 for the period of August 9, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 131.

Beth stated all the funds that they received last year were utilized in a timely manner and she anticipates they will be able to use these funds as well within the timeframe.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the acceptance of the Election Integrity Grant Program funds.

Human Services

- E. Transportation – Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve the acceptance of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) allocation for FY 2023-2024 in the amount of \$968,934. This is the amount that was submitted and was approved on the Budget for the fiscal year listed and will allow the opportunity to continue providing the trips for the Medical Assistance Transportation Program. The allocation total is \$968,934 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 531.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Medical Assistance Transportation Program allocation for FY 2023-2024 to next week's Consent Agenda.

F. Children and Youth Services

- i. Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve the Centre County Interagency Operational Agreement for Child Abuse Investigations. The Children's Advocacy Centre of Centre County (CAC) has requested that Centre County CYS and Centre County Mental Health sign the Centre County Interagency Operational Agreement for Child Abuse Investigations to show we acknowledge the Centre County Child Abuse Protocol and agree to the standard for conduct in handling child abuse cases that meet the criteria to be referred to the CAC of Centre County. There are no funds attached to the agreement. Our signatures indicate that we agree to have staff available, attend interagency meetings, provide services and testimony in hearings, consistent with the guidelines and within the law – Dept 511.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Centre County Interagency Operational Agreement for Child Abuse Investigations.

Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve the following items:

- ii. Contract renewal with Centre County Youth Service Bureau to provide foster care/residential services for delinquent youth. The contract total is \$1,781,427 funded as follows: State \$1,457,161.10 and County \$324,265.90 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 511.
- iii. Contract renewal with KidsPeace National Centers, Inc. to provide foster care/residential services for dependent and delinquent youth. The contract total is \$50,000 funded as follows: State \$40,000 and County \$10,000 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 511.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Children and Youth Services items ii-iii to next week's Consent Agenda.

G. MH/ID EI- D&A

Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Contract renewal with Brockerhoff Housing Corporation to provide mental health and intellectual disabilities services including representative payee. The contract total is \$18,900 funded as follows: State \$18,029 and County Match \$871 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- ii. Contract renewal with Oasis Lifecare, LLC to provide mental health services including outpatient and emergency services. The contract total is \$21,500 funded as follows: State \$20,508 and County Match \$992 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- iii. Contract Addendum No. 1 with the Centre County Youth Service Bureau to allow for funds to provide additional mental health housing support, family support services, and community services in the amount of \$18,294. Service provider's contract maximum will increase from \$101,000 to \$119,294. The contract total is \$119,294 funded as follows: State \$113,794 and County Match \$5,500 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 561.
- iv. Contract Addendum No. 1 with Crossroads Counseling, Inc. to allow for funds to provide additional mental health outpatient services at Centre County Correctional Facility in the amount of \$20,211. The service providers contract maximum will increase from \$28,000 to \$48,211. The contract total is \$48,211 funded as follows: State \$45,988 and County Match \$2,223 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 561.
- v. Contract Addendum No. 2 with Peerstar, LLC to allow for funds to provide additional peer support services in the amount of \$8,842. This will increase services provider's contract from \$4,500 to \$13,342. The contract total is \$13,342 funded as follows: State \$12,727 and County Match \$615 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 561.
- vi. Letter of Agreement with Care For People Plus, Inc. to provide services including home and community based services, homemaker chore services, transportation and medical environment services. The contract total is \$51,500 funded as follows: State \$49,126 and County Match \$2,374 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- vii. Consider approval of the Triennial Supports Coordination Organization Qualification Application. This qualifies Centre County Supports Coordination Organization to provide Support Coordination (SC) services to individuals who participate in services through Pennsylvania's Consolidated, Community Living, and P/FDS Waivers, as well as those individuals served with base funding. There is no cost to the County for the period of November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2026 – Dept 561.
- viii. Consider approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Centre County Anti-Threat Team (CATT). This team is dedicated to the prevention of targeted acts of violence. This team consists of law enforcement agencies in the Centre County region who will work to identify, assess, and manage situations where the risk of violence is imminent and/or anticipated. There is no cost associated with the MOU for the period of July 1, 2023 to ongoing –Dept 561/562.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the MH/ID EI-D&A items i-viii to next week's Consent Agenda.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

IX. C-NET REQUESTS

Administrator John Franek Jr. asked the Board to approve the sponsorship for the taping of Centre County League of Women Voter Candidates' Night on October 24 and October 26, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the CNET sponsorship of Centre County League of Women Voter Candidates' Night.

X. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$1,345,178.41 dated October 6, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated October 6, 2023.

XI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator John Franek Jr. introduced Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle to give a brief explanation of the Children & Youth Services Needs Based Plan and Budget. Julia stated Children & Youth Services just submitted their plan and budget for FY 24-25. The Department is allowed to move some funds around if needed during this time of the year. The planning of it relies heavily on data to project for the following fiscal year. The funding matches between the County, State and Federal vary for the services. There are two parts to the plan: a narrative component and a fiscal component. The narrative component looks at benchmarks that the state requires the agency to look at national averages and see if they are meeting the requirements. The fiscal component is per child so the agency is looking at things like where they believe the child will be in two years and the three to five year average on placement rates to see how many additional children will be coming in as well as what types of placements they are.

XII. REPORTS – ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported a total of 100,141 registered voters in Centre County. The Precinct of the week is Precinct #30 State College East Central 3. In the last Election there were 544 registered voters with 29 voters cast for a voter turnout of 5.33%.

B. Announcements

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

XIV. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Board of Commissioners Work Session – 11:00 AM– Willowbank 146

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Board of Commissioners Budget Work Session – 1:30 PM & 2:30 PM – Willowbank 144

Monday, October 16, 2023

Board of Commissioners Budget Work Sessions – 1:00 PM, 1:30 PM & 2:30 PM – Willowbank 144

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Commissioners Budget Work Session – 2:30 PM & 3:30 PM – Willowbank 144

XV. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously adjourn the meeting at 10: 46 AM.

ATTEST: _____

John Franek Jr.

Administrator