



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, October 12, 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 11:02 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Deputy Administrator John Franek, Jr., and Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith.

County personnel present included Controller Jason Moser and Travis Walker.

Guests present included Kim Stank and Corey Troutman.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Review ARPA Allocations

Kim Stank reported that the County has committed \$6,982,441 in ARPA allocations with \$4,697,512 expended.

The County's Revenue replacement allocation is projected at \$5 million. Projecting \$5 mil as revenue replacement amount. At the moment, only the 2021 employee bonus has been committed. The 2021 revenue loss will not be known until the end of the year.

Deputy Administrator John Franek, Jr. identified that the County has committed just over \$519,000 to external project allocations. These projects include air service development, affordable housing needs assessment update, SEDA-COG & Haines Woodward water well and waterline improvements, and Unionville Borough water reservoir replacement.

Administrator Margaret Gray noted that Centre Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM) has requested an allocation to assist with the acquisition and renovation of a new medical facility. Commissioner Pipe suggested a letter of support for CVIM's RACP application. Margaret stated an email was received from Delta Development asking the County to administer the grant/project.

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Margaret noted that funding requests have not changed much in the last two to three weeks.

Commissioner Pipe recommended postponing looking at infrastructure category requests until Federal Government considers passing the infrastructure bill. Entities could be sent updates closer to the holidays.

Commissioner Dershem would like to have Central Booking Center considered for an allocation. Central Booking has a significant budgetary shortfall in its operation. The facility holds an incredibly important role in the law enforcement process and provides services for the State Police and Attorney General's Office, neither of which make contributions to the facility. Commissioner Pipe and Higgins would support this, and Commissioner Pipe noted it could be a multi-year cushion.

Margaret reported that she could provide the Board with the letter Central Booking sent to municipalities a month ago to request contributions.

Kim stated that this would definitely fall in revenue replacement, but she will look into more detail if it can be ARP eligible. The Board discussed Central Bookings use of video conferencing, County staff, and the potential for a number of items to be identified in the budget process that are eligible.

Controller Jason Moser noted that since prepandemic that Central Booking has seen a decline in revenue. This is the first year since its establishment that they have reached out to municipalities to request additional funding.

Travis Walker stated that budget projections will be sent to municipalities for their estimated annual contribution based on, with finalized numbers to be sent in December.

Commissioner Pipe reported that \$175,000 is the estimated cost for broadband. This may fluctuate when considering retention of legal services and sending out a mailer survey.

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 11:21 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray

Administrator