



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, October 17, 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 Office Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel present included Deputy Administrator Natalie Corman, Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle, Ray Stolin, Ryan Smeltzer, Jim Coslo, Ethan Howard, Julee Smith, Recorder of Deeds Joe Davidson and Devyn McPheeters.

Guests present included Evalene Ishler, Missy Schoonover, Mary Elliott and Cindy Kunes.

Representatives from the news media included Gary Sinderson.

C-NET staff were present.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Dershem gave public comment on the Primary Election date potentially being moved to March and strongly advised against moving of the date.

### IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

### V. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Board of Commissioners Work Sessions held on October 2, October 3, October 9, October 10, 2023 and the Board of Commissioners meeting held on October 10, 2023.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the meetings held on October 2, 3, 9 and 10, 2023.*

### VI. PROCLAMATION

Proclamation 45 of 2023 – Jim Coslo, Julee Smith, Devyn McPheeters, Ethan Howard and Evalene Isher joined the Board in proclaiming November 22-29, 2023 as “Farm City Week “in Centre County.

Jim stated Farm City Week is a National observance recognized annually. It is celebrated nationally before the week of Thanksgiving. The partners are Farm Bureau, Kwanis Club, Penn State Extension, The Grange, 15 FFA Students from different chapters, Centre

County Dairy Princess, Centre County Grange Fair Queen and many others.

This year the Farm City Banquet will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup> at the New Hope Lutheran Church and tickets are still available. The Commissioners thanked Jim and the Farm City Committee for all of their conservation efforts throughout the year and are looking forward to attending the annual Farm City Banquet.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 45 of 2023 proclaiming November 22-29, 2023 as "Farm City Week" in Centre County.*

VII. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATION

A. Probation

Ryan Smeltzer asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Consider approval of the purchase of 20 Kenwood radios and unit chargers from Centre Communications to replace the outdated radios in the Probation Department. The total is \$38,388.40 which is COSTARS pricing and includes the 3 percent discount – Dept. 120.
- ii. Consider approval of the Subgrant application through Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for the Continuing County Adult Probation and Parole Grant, formerly referred to as Grant-in-Aid, which assists in staff salaries. The expected amount to be awarded is \$99,500 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 – Dept. 301.

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

- B. Planning and Community Development – Ray Stolinis and Missy Schoonover asked the Board to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Centre County Housing & Land Trust (CCHLT) to provide general and/or administrative support to Centre County Housing & Land Trust for up to 5 hours per week of work time and coordination with the Centre County Planning & Community Development Office. There is no contract total for the period of November 1, 2023 to October 31, 2024 – Dept 151.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Memorandum of Agreement with Centre County Housing & Land Trust to next week's Consent Agenda.*

Human Services

C. MH/ID EI- D&A

Julia Sprinkle asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Contract renewal with Strawberry Fields, Inc. to provide mental health services including community residential, targeted case management, and housing support. The contract total is \$1,332,000 funded as follows: State \$1,270,595 and County Match \$61,405 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- ii. Contract renewal with Eagle Valley Personal Care Home to provide mental health services including housing support, community residential services and family support services. The contract total is \$684,000 funded as follows: State \$652,468 and County Match \$31,532 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept

561.

- iii. Contract renewal with Eagle View Personal Care Home, LLC to provide mental health services including community residential (enhanced support in a community residence). The contract total is \$450,000 funded as follows: State \$429,255 and County Match \$20,745 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- iv. Contract renewal with Skills, Inc to provide mental health services including family based, psychiatric rehabilitation, community employment, and peer support services. Intellectual disability services include community employment, community habilitation, prevocational services and respite. The contract total is \$256,106 funded as follows: State \$244,299 and County Match \$11,807 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.
- v. Contract renewal with The Advocacy Alliance to provide mental health services including social rehabilitation and CFST case management surveys. Intellectual disability services include incident management and transportation services. The contract total is \$30,000 funded as follows: State \$28,617 and County Match \$1,383 for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 – Dept 561.

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

VIII. LIQUID FUELS – FEE FOR LOCAL USE

- i. Ray Stolinas asked the Board to approve the change of scope for the fee for local use in the amount of \$57,150 awarded to Curtin Township to eliminate the repair of Blue Row (T504) and Middletown Road (T486) as originally awarded and instead utilize the funding to tar and chip Orviston Mt Road which will be completed before the end of 2023 – Dept. 412.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the change of scope for the fee for local use in the amount of \$57,150 for Curtin Township.*

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Probation – 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.
- B. Planning and Community Development – Consider approval of 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.

Human Services

- C. Transportation – Consider approval of 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.
- D. Children and Youth Services
- i. 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.
  - ii. 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.
- E. MH/ID EI- D&A
- 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.

-----END OF CONSENT-----

X. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$705,449.05 dated October 13, 2023.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated October 13, 2023.*

XI. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Resolution 1 of 2023 – Third Quarter Report of 2023.

Administrator John Franek Jr. reported 40 authorizations that were signed in the third quarter with momentary values ranging from no cost to 31,783.44, which was the emergency repair of the sinkhole in the Sheriffs parking lot. The total of all the contracts that were approved in the third quarter by the Administrator was \$205,065.62.

Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle stated the Office of Aging receives combined funding from the State, County and Federal. Aging also receives an Aging Block Grant which is the State Allocation that they receive. The OPTIONS Program is a program that offers emergency buttons and home delivered meals which is entirely funded through the Block Grant. The Family Caregivers Program reimburses family members or caregivers that are taking care of elderly family members for various costs and is funded with a combination of state funding and Block Grant funding.

Protective services which investigate cases that involve elderly abuse and neglect is funded with the Block Grant as well. Another program is PA Medi Insurance program, which offers insurance counseling that is funded through the State and Block Grant. The Odsbudmans Program is also Block Grant funded and is a program that is offered in local nursing homes. The Senior Centers are funded with various grants and the Block Grant. They can receive grants in two ways, competitive and guaranteed amount.

RSVP is funded through County and Federal funds. The level of care assessments is a revenue source paid through the Department of Human Services. The Aging office goes

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out and assess people to determine what their level of care is.

XII. REPORTS – ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported a total of 100,244 registered voters in Centre County. The Precinct of the week is Precinct #31 State College West 1. In the last Election there were 656 registered voters with 277 ballots cast for a voter turnout of 42.22%.

B. Announcements

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

XIV. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

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

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Board of Commissioners Budget Work Sessions – 2:00 PM – Willowbank 146

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Elections – 2:00 PM – Willowbank 146

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 10:40 AM.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

John Franek Jr.

Administrator