



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

Monday, January 6, 2020, 10:00 A.M.

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Centre County Board of Commissioners was convened at 10:02 AM by Administrator Margaret N. Gray.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Solicitor Elizabeth Dupuis, and Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith.

County personnel present included Deputy Administrator Bob Jacobs, Controller Jason Moser, Prothonotary Jeremy Breon, Tom Martin, Kristen Simkins, Geri Sorgen, Chad Joyce, and Christina Clark.

There were no guests present.

Representatives from the news media included Gary Sinderson.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Chair

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to appoint Commissioner Pipe as Chair of the Centre County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Dershem seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

B. Election of Vice-Chair

Commissioner Dershem made a motion to appoint Commissioner Higgins as the Vice Chair of the Centre County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Pipe seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

C. Adoption of *Roberts Rules of Order* for conducting public meetings.

Commissioner Higgins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem and the Board voted unanimously to adopt Roberts Rules of Order for conducting public meetings.

D. Adoption of Public Meeting Rules

Commissioner Higgins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem and the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Public Meeting Rules

E. Appointment of County Administrator / Chief Clerk

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to appoint Margaret N. Gray as County Administrator / Chief Clerk of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Dershem seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

F. Appointment of County Solicitor

Commissioner Higgins made a motion to appoint Elizabeth Dupuis as County Solicitor. Commissioner Dershem seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

G. CONTRACTS

- i. Commissioners – Administrator Margaret Gray presented a contract with the law firm of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. for appointment as Solicitor of Centre County Government – Dept. 111.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contract with Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C.

- ii. Controller – Controller Jason Moser presented a contract with the law firm of Miller, Kistler & Campbell for appointment of Solicitor for the Office of the Controller. The contract rate is \$140 per hour and is not to exceed \$3,000 for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 – Dept. 125.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contract with Miller, Kistler & Campbell.

H. Acknowledgement of the 2020 County Meeting Schedule

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the 2020 County Meeting Schedule.

I. Acknowledgement of the 2020 Holiday Schedule

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the 2020 Holiday Schedule.

J. RESOLUTIONS

- i. Resolution 1 of 2020 – Administrator Margaret Gray introduced the Resolution establishing the authorization of financial institutions for depository of County funds beginning January 1, 2020 through January 1, 2024 – Dept. 111.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 1 of 2020.

- ii. Resolution 2 of 2020 – Commissioner Pipe introduced the Resolution authorizing Margaret N. Gray Administrator and Chief Clerk the authority to execute financial documents not to exceed \$10,000 on behalf of the County of Centre – Dept. 111.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 2 of 2020.

- K. In accordance with County Code Section 1782.1, the Board discussed re-opening the 2020 County Budget. This will allow newly elected officials the opportunity to review and amend the budget for their departments. Administrator Margaret Gray reported that the tentative budget would be presented on Tuesday, January 28 with final adoption scheduled for Tuesday, February 11.

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to re-open the 2020 Centre County Budget.

- L. Appointments to Authorities, Boards, and Commissions

The Board discussed the following appointments for County and outside agencies:

Agriculture Land Preservation Board	Commissioner Higgins
Aging Advisory Council	Commissioner Dershem
Children & Youth Services Advisory Committee	Commissioner Pipe
Conservation District Board of Directors	Commissioner Dershem
Cooperative Extension	Commissioner Pipe
Drug & Alcohol Planning Council	Commissioner Dershem
HOPE Initiative Advisory Board	Commissioner Dershem
MH/ID Advisory Board	Commissioner Pipe
Planning Commission	Commissioner Higgins
Training Center Advisory Board	Commissioner Higgins
Bellefonte Inter Valley Chamber of Commerce	Commissioner Higgins and Commissioner Dershem
Central Counties Youth Detention Center	Commissioner Dershem
Central PA Workforce Development Board and Local Elected Officials	Commissioner Dershem
Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization	Commissioner Pipe and Commissioner Higgins
CNET Board of Directors	Administrator Margaret Gray

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Federation of Public Libraries	Commissioner Dershem
Centre County Fire Chiefs Association	Commissioner Pipe
Happy Valley Adventure Bureau	Commissioner Higgins
Tourism Grant Review Committee	2020: Commissioner Pipe and Commissioner Higgins 2021: Commissioner Dershem and Commissioner Pipe 2022: Commissioner Higgins and Commissioner Dershem 2023: Commissioner Pipe and Commissioner Higgins
SEDA COG Board of Directors	Commissioner Higgins
SEDA COG Natural Gas Cooperative	Commissioner Pipe
Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County (CBICC)	Commissioner Pipe

The Board discussed the appointment of designees to serve in their place on the Board of Assessment Appeals:

Commissioner Pipe	Eric Friedman
Commissioner Higgins	Alec Pringle
Commissioner Dershem	Roland Fisher

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously approve the appointments.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray
Administrator