



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 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 Board of Commissioners was convened at 11:33 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, 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.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

### IV. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Controller Jason Moser confirmed that required compliance reporting for the period of March through December 2021 was submitted yesterday by the deadline.

The County has expended \$5.5 million in ARPA funds with another \$11.5 million that is already committed. Kim Stank noted current revenue loss calculations total \$6.4 million with \$300,000 expended in 2021 and \$4 million slated for 2022.

John Franek has received a follow-up inquiry from Steve Bair Fire Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments for potential ARPA funding to purchase a Gemini material analyzer device. Margaret has had discussion with Eric Norenberg, Executive Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments who did not give any indication about municipal contributions from those that would be using the equipment. The County has not received any further communications. John asked Kim how this would qualify under ARPA, to which she said it would not be directly eligible and would require use of revenue loss funds. It was the consensus of the Board that John communicate this to the Council of Governments.

John reported that he recently attended a webinar with Bob Casey relative to the Infrastructure Investments Job Act. The funding is primarily to be dedicated to bridges, highways, high-speed internet and EV charging stations. They also

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mentioned small localities can claim up to \$10 mill in revenue loss as some type of match. He is concerned that this may not be a viable funding stream for some of the requests that the County has received. Kim heard a lot of this funding will be allocated to PennDOT and will be awarded through a competitive process. John clarified that water and sewer projects were not mentioned as an area of focus. Yesterday, the White House Intergovernmental Affairs Office released a guidebook on the Infrastructure Act that has a section outlining rural water projects. Commissioner Pipe will distribute this to the ARPA group and Commissioner Higgins announced the GFOA is hosting a webinar next Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM related to the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act.

V. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 AM.

ATTEST:

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Margaret N. Gray  
Administrator