



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Willowbank Office Building  
420 Holmes Street, Room 146  
Bellefonte, 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 Michael Pipe.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 Jeff Wharran, Peter Butler, Liz Lose, John Franek and Chad Joyce.

Representatives from the news media included 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 to the agenda.

### V. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

**Action:** *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the Board of Commissioners meeting.*

### VI. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

### VII. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATIONS

#### A. Emergency Management

Director Jeff Wharran presented the following items:

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- i. Adoption of the Centre County Distribution Management Plan, to become an appendix to the County Emergency Operations Plan. This plan was prepared as a requirement of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Jeff noted that this is related to large scale disasters and disruption to supply chains – Dept. 351.
- ii. U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Fiscal Year 2021 emergency management performance grant (EMPG) agreement between the County and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. The grant award is \$105,343, which is State funded for the period of October 1, 2020 through March 30, 2022. This augments the salaries and benefits of Emergency Management staff – Dept. 351.

**Action:** *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Centre County Distribution Management Plan and the FFY 2021 EMPG agreement to next week's Consent Agenda.*

**B. Human Services**

Human Service Administrator Natalie Corman presented the following items:

- i. Adult Services – Contract with Calvary Church to provide home repair services to Centre County residents. This is a six-month pilot program and will be funded through the Human Services Block Grant retained earnings. The contract total is \$75,000 for the period of January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 – Dept. 501.

**Action:** *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the contract with Calvary Church to next week's Consent Agenda.*

ii. Children and Youth Services

1. Contract renewal with Affinity Forensic Services LLC dba PA Forensic Services to provide foster care services for dependent/delinquent youth. The contract total is \$130,000, which is funded as follows: State \$104,000 and County \$26,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Dept. 511
2. Contract renewal with Hope's Haven Residential Services to provide residential services. The contract total is \$219,000, which is funded as follows: State \$175,000 and County \$43,800 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Dept. 511.
3. Contract renewal with Summit School Inc. to provide residential services. The contract total is \$25,000, which is funded as follows: State \$15,000 and County \$10,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Dept. 511.
4. Contract with CHOR Youth and Family Services to provide foster/residential services. The contract total is \$70,000, which is funded as follows: State \$56,000 and County \$14,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 – Dept. 511.

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***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the Children and Youth services items 1-4 to next week's Consent Agenda.*

**VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

*On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve this week's Consent Agenda.*

**Public Defender** – Contract with AbacusNext to provide Abacus Private Cloud with Abacus Law for 15 users. The contract is \$3,285 per month, a total of \$197,100 for the period of February 15, 2022 through February 14, 2027 – Dept. 132.

**IX. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

| <b>ABC</b>   | <b>Name</b>      | <b>Action</b>   | <b>Term</b>                           |
|--|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Local Emergency Planning Committee                 | Matt Colyer      | Appointment   |                                       |
| MH/ID Advisory Board                               | Laura Gardner    | Re-Appointment  | March 1, 2022 – February 28, 2025     |
| MH/ID Advisory Board                               | Rebecca Shepski  | Resignation   | August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2022        |
| Airport Authority                                  | George Khoury    | Appointment to fill the unexpired term of Bruce Pincus. | February 15, 2022 – December 31, 2022 |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Kimberly Fragola | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Margaret Gray    | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Steven Dershem   | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Helen DeFilippis | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Sharon Rovansek  | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Carl Inglesby    | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |
| Federation of Public Libraries – Board of Trustees | Barbara Ziff     | Re-Appointment  | January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022   |

***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the ABC resignation, appointment and re-appointments.*

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X. PRESENTATION

Broadband Demonstration

Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development Liz Lose joined the Board with Peter Butler to provide a demonstration of the Centre County speed survey. This is comprised of a speed test and survey to gather data about the availability and speed of internet service, including to identify locations that lack such service. For residents who do not have internet access, a paper survey is available for completion.

XI. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$576,968.96 dated February 11, 2022.

***Action:** On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated February 11, 2022.*

XII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray reported that AMI Expeditionary Healthcare will continue the COVID-19 testing site at the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority's center through the end of February. They are having discussions with the Department of Health to continue into March.

XIII. LETTER OF SUPPORT

XIV. REPORTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported 105,079 registered voters in Centre County. The precinct of the week is #55 Halfmoon Township with 895 registered voters. In the Municipal Election there were 369 ballots cast for a voter turnout of 41.23%.

B. Announcements

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

There were no executive sessions to report.

XVI. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022**

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Commissioners Work Session – ARPA - 11 AM – Willowbank 146

**Thursday, February 17, 2022**

Board of Commissioners/Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

**Tuesday, February 22, 2022**

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

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**Thursday, February 24, 2022**

Finance Committee – 9 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Commissioners/Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

XVII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 AM.

ATTEST:

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Margaret N. Gray  
Administrator