



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 10:00 A.M.

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

[Register](#) online to receive a notification when meeting agendas are posted.

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 Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle, Deputy Administrator Natalie Corman, Chad Joyce, Tracy Martin, Cathy Arbogast, Liz Lose, and Ray Stolinis.

Guests present included Ethan Howard, Hannah Trigg, Noah Fetterolf, Brittany Helm, Heather Walters, Mary Beth Rader Allecar, Jillian Anderson, Angela Anderson, Remington Weaver, Michele Crowl, Eva Pell, Joyce Robinson, Eric Spielvogel, Scott Tiffany, Denise Sticha, Bonnie Goble, Cindy Kunes, Judy Dombrowski, Beth Schwartz, Pam McCloskey, Deborah Cleeton, Carl Inglesby, and Lori Fisher.

Representatives from the news media included Gary Sinderson, Breanna Hanley, and WTAJ news.

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 made to the Agenda.

V. MEETING MINUTES

The Board will consider approving the minutes from the Board of Commissioners meeting held on February 21, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting held on February 21, 2023.

VI. PROCLAMATION

Proclamation 6 of 2023 – Proclaiming February 28, 2023 as Museum Advocacy Day in Centre County.

Eva Pell with Discovery Space spoke about the importance of science and the opportunities that are offered at the organization. Eva also spoke about the science center and the Rivet, which offer many opportunities to Centre County residents.

Joyce Robinson spoke about the Palmer Museum of Art at Penn State University. Last year they celebrated the 50th anniversary of the organization. She spoke about the new state of the art facility that will be adjacent to the HO Smith Botanical Gardens at the Arboretum which plans on opening in the Spring of 2024.

Scott Tiffany and Eric Spielvogel spoke about the American Philatelic Society that opened in 1886 which is located in the Match Factory in Bellefonte. The organization plans on opening a Jewish Holocaust exhibit that includes letters and stamps from the Holocaust that intends on opening in April or May of 2023.

Denise Sticha of Centre County Library and Historical Museum spoke about the 200-year old house where the organization is located. Denise stated they have an extension collection of artifacts and genealogical collection and thanked the Commissioners for recognizing their organization.

Lori Fisher spoke about the Bellefonte Art Museum which showcases local art as well as art from outside the area to provide enrichment to the Centre County community. The building was built in 1810, referred to as the Linn House which was involved with the underground railroad.

The Commissioners offered comments of appreciation to all of the organizations and museums in Centre County and everything they have offered and continue to offer to our community.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 6 of 2023 proclaiming February 28, 2023 as Museum Advocacy Day.

Proclamation 7 of 2023 – Proclaiming March 12-18, 2023 as Pennsylvania 4-H Week in Centre County.

Ethan Howard, Hannah Trigg, Noah Fetterolf, Brittany Helm, Mary Beth Allegar, Jillian Anderson, and Remington Weaver joined the Board in proclaiming Pennsylvania 4-H Week. Brittany spoke on the 77,597 youth participants, 6,000 adult volunteers, and the current 322 members in the Centre County region, as well as the upcoming events happening in Centre County. Noah, Hannah, Remington, and Jillian who are all 4-H students spoke about how the various organizations have impacted their lives.

The Commissioners thanked everyone for all the work that has gone into the 4-H programs in our community.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 7 of 2023 proclaiming March 12-18, 2023 as 4-H Week.

VII. PRESENTATION

Liz Lose presented the Broadband Strategic Plan Summary Presentation to the Board.

Liz stated there are about 4,300 underserved addresses below 25/3 Mbps, 3,600 addresses underserved with speeds about 25/3 but below 100/20 Mbps and 7,900 addresses are unserved or underserved. There were almost 1,600 residents that responded to the speed survey that was put out to the community in 2022. There are

three funding opportunities for the Broadband project; the Capital Projects Funds, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, and the Digital Equity Act Program.

Liz and her department hope to release an RFP in late March of 2023 to various organizations/providers.

VIII. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATION

- A. Records Management – Tracy Martin asked the Board to approve the contract termination with Stericycle, Inc. This is a 30-day termination notice with Stericycle, Inc. that has provided the County with shredding services for the period of April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023 – Dept 143.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contract termination with Stericycle, Inc.

Human Services

- B. MH/ID/EI- D&A

Cathy Arbogast asked the Board to approve the following items:

- i. Approve the Professional Service Agreement with Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11 to provide funds that are available from Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) to support workforce development for Early Intervention Programs. These funds will be passed through the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit 11 and are not to exceed \$6,478.61 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 561.
- ii. Contract renewal with Roxbury Treatment Center to provide drug and alcohol services including medically monitored inpatient withdrawal management, clinically managed high intensity residential and enhanced residential, case management services, and medication assisted treatment. The contract total is estimated at \$5,000 funded as follows: State \$5,000 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 – Dept 562.

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

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Elections – Consider approval of a contract with ElectionIQ, LLC to provide custom software for Poll Workers and Inventory Management. The contract total is \$28,000 for the period of February 28, 2023 to February 27, 2024 – Dept 131.

- B. Conservation District

- i. Consider approval of the Countywide Action Plan Block Grant Subaward Projects. The following projects were reviewed, and it was determined that they best represented the goals of the Centre County Action Plan:

1. Ridenour Farm In-Stream Restoration Project located in a tributary to Pine Creek near Aaronsburg: Chesapeake Conservancy \$48,222.00
2. Spring Creek (Benner Springs) Stream Restoration Project: Western Pennsylvania Conservancy \$34,660.00
3. SCCTU 2022 CAP Request Oak Hall Project: Spring Creek Chapter Trout Unlimited \$26,712.00

The Countywide Action Plan Block Grant Subaward Projects total is \$109,594.00 for the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023 – Dept 822.

- ii. Consider approval of the contract addendum #3 with Herbert, Rowland and Grubric, Inc. (HRG, Inc.) to provide supplemental engineering and related services for the implementation phase of the Countywide Action Plan for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan. The contract total is \$95,000, which will be funded by the Community Clean Water Action Plan Coordinator Grant from PADEP for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 – Dept 822.

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

X. AUTHORITIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

ABC	NAME	ACTION	TERM
Conservation District	Chris Ishler	Appointment to fill unexpired term of C. Allen Ishler	February 28, 2023 – December 31, 2024

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to the ABC appointment of Chris Ishler.

XI. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$1,133,815.88 dated February 24, 2023.

Action: On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to the check run dated February 24, 2023.

XII. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

XIII. REPORTS – ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported a total of 99,801 registered voters in Centre County. The Precinct of the week is Precinct #1 Bellefonte North. In the last Election there were 513 registered voters with 361 ballots cast for a voter turnout of 70.37%.

B. Announcements

- i. The Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 as well as the Salary Board/Board of Commissioners meetings on Thursday, March 9, 2023 have been CANCELLED.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Administrator John Franek Jr. stated there is a need to meet in executive session to discuss personnel matters following this meeting.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023
PAGE 5

XV. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Board of Commissioners Work Session – 11:00 AM – Willowbank 146

Thursday, March 16, 2023

Board of Commissioners – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

Salary Board – 10 AM – Willowbank 146

XVI. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to move into executive session from 11:08 AM to 12:01 PM and adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.

ATTEST: _____

John Franek Jr.

Administrator