



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:30 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 11:36 AM by Chair of the Board Mark Higgins.

In attendance were Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator John Franek Jr., and Executive Office Supervisor Erin Good.

County personnel included Deputy Administrator Natalie Corman, Controller Jason Moser, Ray Stolinas, Liz Lose, Treasurer Colleen Kennedy, Lee Shaeffer, and Interim Warden Glenn Irwin.

Guests present included Kim Stank.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

III. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Administrator John Franek Jr. stated there was a request for fitness equipment at the CCCF for the employees. Interim Warden Irwin stated the current gym equipment is very old and some is even unusable. Warden Schell received a quote for \$22,809 for the commercial equipment a few months back. Commissioner Dershem asked if this could be funded through PCorp funds or capital funds. Commissioner Higgins would like to see if there are any funds that would be available through wellness. John stated he would check into how the funding would be available for this project and provide the Board an update in the near future.

Liz Lose asked the Board if CTC Technology could be kept on retainer for the Broadband RFP project and assist in the solicitation process at \$300/hour on an as-needed basis with the use of ARPA funds. Commissioner Dershem stated that he was not in favor for \$300/hour with the consultant. The Board asked if we could negotiate on the price/contract with other consultants and would circle back at this request.

John stated another requested submitted by Country Corner Cave in Orviston, PA owned by Timothy Quick is requesting a grant to cover repairs and expansion to maintain the business infrastructure. John stated he did not state in the request the amount the establishment would need for the repairs. The Board asked John to respond to the

requestor that we would keep his request but funding for this request is not currently available.

Another request was received from Nittany Valley Joint Recreation Authority relative to the Kepler Pool Project, which is estimated at \$3.4 million and a contribution of \$110,000 from the County match would assist in the funding of this project. Commissioner Dershem stated that he would like to sit down with Nittany Valley Joint Recreation Authority or have a conversation on specific questions he has and what their intentions of the \$110,000 would be. Kim Stank is going to do some research to see what categories the request would fall under and report back at the next meeting.

John said as part of the three-year Capital Planning, he has worked with the facilities department to breakdown the future capital projects throughout the County facilities and infrastructure, which is estimated at \$4.5 million.

Kim Stank stated there are \$11.5 million that may be used under the provision of government services. So far, we have used \$1,358,663 plus a little with the Broadband project. There is about \$10 million dollars remaining of provision of government services that can be used for some of the projects that are coming up.

Kim stated the final numbers should be calculated sometime in June or early July of 2023. Commissioner Higgins confirmed with Kim that once the final numbers are received, the provision of government services would only increase and not decrease, so the \$11.5 million is a safe number.

Commissioner Dershem asked what the Centre County Correctional Facility roof condition is currently. Lee stated there are a few leaks, but it is a good candidate in the future for a roof restoration and the 15-year warranty has run out already. Lee stated it would be restored in 2024 or 2025 timeframe most likely and the Alpha guard roof restoration would buy the County another 30-year warranty.

Commissioner Higgins asked if the County were to move \$4.5 million for future capital projects into the provision of governmental services column if it can be moved into the unrestricted funds column, Kim confirmed that it can.

Kim stated the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) allocation will be \$100,000 and we could move this money into the provision of government services. This would be used towards the demolition of the Valentine Street houses and will further be discussed at the next meeting.

IV. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

V. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Dershem seconded by Commissioner Higgins, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:32 PM.

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ATTEST:

John Franek Jr.

Administrator