



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 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 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 Sheriff Bryan Sampsel, Faith Ryan, Chris Schnure, Joni McIntyre, Dave Lomison, Norm Spackman, Rayme Weidel, Ross Miller, Jennifer Walters and Chad Joyce.

Guests present included Jennifer Caron, Amy Schirf and Amy Rumbel.

C-Net staff were present.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments 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 Tuesday, April 5, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from April 5, 2022.*

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Schirf of the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority joined the Board to announce the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Friday, April 29, 2022 from 8 AM to 4 PM and Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 8 AM to 2 PM at 253 Transfer Road, Bellefonte, PA. Click [here](#) to register.

VII. PROCLAMATION

- A. Proclamation 9 of 2022 – Conservation District Manager Jim Coslo joined the Board in proclaiming **April 10-16** as **Conservation District Week** in Centre County.

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Conservation District in Centre County formed in 1954 by the County Commissioners at the request of local farmers and local citizens who were interested in the conservation of soil and water resources. The District is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the County Commissioners and is composed of 4 Farmer Directors, 2 Urban Directors and 1 County Commissioner Director. The Conservation District currently has 7 full time employees, 2 part-time employees and are currently in the process of onboarding 2 vacant positions as well as a summer intern. Since it's inception, the District has evolved into three branches-Agriculture, Urban Erosion and Sedimentation and Watershed Protection.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 9 of 2022.*

- B. Proclamation 10 of 2022 – Director Norm Spackman joined the Board with Rayme Weidel, Jennifer Walters and Ross Miller in proclaiming **April 10-16** as **9-1-1 Dispatchers Week** in Centre County.

In 2021 our 9-1-1 staff handled over 38,000 emergency phone calls and over 88,000 non-emergency phone calls which resulted in over 120,000 incidents for emergency services in other agencies the department serves.

Jen Walters and Ross Miller thanked the Board for their recognition. She spoke of assistance that dispatchers provide from CPR instructions, to talking someone through a panic attack, or staying on the phone with a caller that may be very ill or scared. Training never seems to stop for the dispatchers, there is always new technology or new ways of dealing with emergency situations. It is also a 24/7 job that requires weekends and overnight shifts.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Proclamation 10 of 2022.*

VIII. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

IX. CONTRACTS – AUTHORIZATIONS

A. Commissioners

Deputy Administrator John Franek Jr. and Jennifer Caron, Esquire of Eckert Seamans joined the Board to introduce Resolution 5 of 2022.

The goal is to have the project out to bid in January 2023 with construction completion in the second quarter of 2024. The next step would be for the identified departments that will be relocating to the building to move in during the third quarter of 2024.

Jennifer provided an overview of the resolution which identifies the capital project and refinancing being considered by the Board and the financing team. The Bond Settlement is planned for July/August 2022 at which time the funds will become available for the County's use.

Commissioner Pipe spoke to preserving the legacy of Centre Crest, alleviating the issue of overcrowded offices in the Willowbank Building and reducing the use of leased space.

Commissioner Higgins also agreed that it will be a great use for the departments to have more space and stated that there will not be a tax increase. It will be a major investment

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that will essentially save a lot of taxpayers' money by utilizing and upgrading the building. Commissioner Dershem is excited to have the space of the building as well, which will offer our services and partners to be all under one roof will be beneficial to the County and Bellefonte community.

Resolution 5 of 2022 – Expressing the County's intent to issue general obligation, nonelectoral debt for the purpose of financing certain projects of the County, including (I) a Capital Project, and (II) a refunding project – Dept. 111.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add Resolution 5 of 2022 to next week's Consent Agenda as presented expressing the County's intent to issue general obligation bonds to finance certain projects as described in the Resolution, declaring the County's official intent to reimburse certain expenditures, and authorizing and directing the County's financing team to proceed with action in preparation and furtherance of the issuance of such debt.*

- B. Adult Services / Criminal Justice Planning – Amy Rumbel and Director of Adult Services Faith Ryan introduced a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Centre Safe in support of an application to the Office of Violence Against Women to provide Transitional Housing Assistance for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking – Dept. 501/306.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the MOU with Centre Safe.*

- C. Planning and Community Development – Chris Schnure introduced a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the final land development plan for Paul B. and Linda S. Fisher Manufacturing Facility located in Penn Township; CCPCDO File No. 33-22. This proposal constitutes a final plan submission showing the development of a single building being 11,760 square feet to be used retail/light manufacturing of roofing material along with corresponding infrastructure. This proposal is located along the northern right-of-way of Tattletown Road (State Route 2016) approximately ½ mile from its intersection with West Aaron Square (State Route 0045) – Dept. 151.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the MOU for the final land development plan for Paul B. and Linda S. Fisher Manufacturing Facility to next week's Consent Agenda.*

- D. Transportation – Director Dave Lomison asked the Board to consider an Intergovernmental Service Agreement with the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Authority to provide contracted services upon request for shared ride trips. The contract is for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 – Dept. 531.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to add the intergovernmental service agreement with the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Authority to next week's Consent Agenda.*

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X. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Controller – Contract with Plante Moran, PLLC to serve as ERP consultant for the County's ERP Project. The contract total is \$177,000 for the period of April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. – Dept. 125.
- B. MH/ID/EI – Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Keystone Pride Resource Institute and the County of Centre. THE MOU will provide cultural competency training, creating welcoming services for LGBTQIA+ individuals and their families, for staff at MH/ID/EI-D&A. The contract total is \$1,000/day for the one-day training to be held on April 29, 2022. – Dept 561.
- C. Sheriff- Contract Addendum B to the Master Agreement with Teleosoft, Inc. to provide CountySuite Incident Reporting Software. – Dept 211.

XI. LIQUID FUELS – FEE FOR LOCAL USE

XII. CHECK RUN

Check run in the amount of \$573,957.66 dated April 8, 2022.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the check run dated April 8, 2022.*

XIII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray reminded citizens that the COVID-19 Testing Center will remain open until April 28th at the Recycling Center Transfer Road location. The County will be looking for a new location after April 28th for the COVID testing center.

XIV. LETTER OF SUPPORT

Letter in support of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Veterans to secure funding for a new Veteran Retreat Center to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for veterans and their families.

Action: *On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the letter of support.*

XV. REPORTS – ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A. Voter Registration Report

Commissioner Dershem reported 105,034 registered voters in Centre County. The precinct of the week is #59 Huston Township with 942 registered voters. In the Municipal Election there were 368 ballots cast for a voter turnout of 39.07%.

B. Announcements

Centre County Government Offices will be closed on Friday, April 15 for Spring Break.

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XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Administrator Margaret Gray reported that the Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, April 7, 2022 from 2:30 – 3:35 PM for a personnel matter.

XVII. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Board of Commissioners– 10 AM – Willowbank 146

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

Thursday, April 14, 2022

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

Board of Elections – 10:30 AM – Willowbank 146

Employee Benefits Trust – 3:00 PM – Willowbank 146

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

Board of Commissioners– 10 AM – Willowbank 146

XVIII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to move into executive session at 11:06 AM.

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray

Administrator