



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES

Thursday, April 30, 2020, 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 Centre County Board of Commissioners was convened at 10:05 AM by Chair of the Board Michael Pipe.

In attendance were Commissioner Michael Pipe, Commissioner Mark Higgins, Commissioner Steven Dershem, Administrator Margaret Gray, Executive Office Supervisor Natalie Smith, Director of Financial Management Tom Martin, and Director of Human Resources Kristen Simkins.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments received from the public.

### III. COVID-19 PLANNING AND RESPONSE

#### A. Personnel

- i. Facilities Management - Approval of the reinstatement of Dustin Spicer, A/C Electronics Tech, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 161.
- ii. GIS - Approval of the reinstatement of Sean Summers, Addressing Specialist, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10. The GIS department works closely with Emergency Communications – Dept. 155.
- iii. Planning - Approval of the reinstatement of Ann Messner, Senior Planner 1/Transportation, from reduced hours furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10. Assistant Director Mike Bloom's last day with the County is May 1, Ann is returning to assist with projects – Dept. 132.
- iv. Prothonotary
  1. Approval of the reinstatement of Khayla Smith, Department Clerk 3, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 223.
  2. Approval of the reinstatement of Ashley Efthimiou, Department Clerk 3, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 223.

v. Public Defender - Approval of the reinstatement of Deborah Lux, First Assistant Public Defender, from reduced hours furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10. Deb has a trial coming up that she needs to prepare for- Dept. 151.

vi. Sheriff

1. Approval of the reinstatement of Emma McCleester, Deputy Sheriff 2, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 211.
2. Approval of the reinstatement of Amanda Howe, Department Clerk 3, from full time furlough to regular full-time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 211.
3. Approval of the reduced hours furlough of Johnathan Muss, Security Officer, from regular full time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 211.
4. Approval of the reduced hours furlough of Richard Smith, Deputy Sheriff/Airport Security 2, from regular full time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 211.
5. Approval of the reduced hours furlough of David Dauria, Deputy Sheriff/Airport Security 2, from regular full time status effective May 4, 2020, pay period 10 – Dept. 211.

vii. Court Offices

1. Extension of temporary furloughs/partial reduction of hours for Court related offices through at least May 8, 2020.
2. Domestic Relations –Reinstatement of identified individuals from full time/reduced hours furlough effective May 4, 2020. This item was a place holder and no requests were received at this time - Dept. 281.
3. Probation –Reinstatement of identified individuals from full time/reduced hours furlough effective May 4, 2020. This includes Brittany Gathagan, Jodi Ault, and Melody Cain from full time furlough to regular full-time status - Dept. 301.

*Action: On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem to approve personnel requests from elected officials and department heads.*

IV. PERSONNEL ITEM

- A. Aging –Approval of the request for Educational Program Support for Sheera Corrigan, Aging Care Manager 2, Aging, (p.c. #09), to attend online courses through Edinboro University of Pennsylvania towards her Masters in Social Work. Tuition for summer 2020 is (estimate) \$5,930.40, with 50% reimbursement at (estimate) \$2,965.20, upon satisfactory completion of course work and confirmation of budgeted staff development funds. Commissioner Dershem asked if this is a new request. Tom Martin confirmed that this individual is from before and the courses are budgeted for 2020. Commissioner Pipe said since this is an ongoing request he is okay with the request at this point, however future requests would be denied. Commissioner Dershem agreed that future requests will require additional conversation and may have to wait until after the pandemic is over – Dept. 521.

On a motion by Commissioner, Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request for Sheera Corrigan. The Commissioners will review future requests including continuing education courses for Planning and the District Attorney's Office for the duration of the Coronavirus emergency. Commissioner Pipe noted that the specified departments would include other departments for any employee education necessary for employment.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Consider Centre Crest request regarding reimbursement for elevator rebuild.

Administrator Margaret Gray introduced the request from Centre Care Inc. Chair Betsy Boyer and Vice-Chair Lawrence Bickford. The elevator is covered under a maintenance contract with ThyssenKrupp an expense of \$12,000 annually. It is now at the point where there are no longer parts available for repair. Commissioner Pipe stated that with the ongoing pandemic there may not be as much of a need for the County to utilize the Centre Crest facility. If the Board can confirm that the fix would be good for 5-10 years, he would be open to discussing payment for a partial amount of the cost. Margaret said in their initial discussions they said the repair will cost over \$100,000 and is a 3-5 year fix.

Commissioner Dershem asked how long the repair will take and when Centre Care will be moved out of the building. According to the correspondence, the repair will take eight weeks with residents moving out in February 2021. Margaret reported that the elevator is completely shut down and Commissioner Dershem added that this will either need to be fixed now or later. Commissioner Pipe was willing to discuss around \$10,000 toward the cost. Between the parking lot, boiler repair, and half million donation to the new facility Commissioner Higgins noted that the County is not obligated to fix the motor based on their contract. He would be willing to consider a partial payment. It was the consensus of the Board to revisit this discussion

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to table the discussion.

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VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

There were no executive sessions to report.

VII. PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

BOC/Salary Board Meeting- 10:00 AM - 146WB

VIII. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Higgins, seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to move into executive session at 10:38 AM.

ATTEST:

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Margaret N. Gray  
Administrator