



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 11:00 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 11:01 AM by Chair of the Board Mark Higgins.

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

County personnel included Deputy Administrator Natalie Corman, Human Services Administrator Julia Sprinkle, and Richard Killian.

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 one of the municipalities reached out to him to see what the status of a payments where towards a particular flight plan with University Park Airport.

Richard stated the County authorized \$250,000 of ARPA funds for an incentive plan with an airline in 2021. They had received \$335,000 total including the County's portion. The challenge the airline had in 2021 was the staffing of pilots to make these flights into University Park Airport. John stated it is unclear if other municipalities have committed ARPA funds into this or not.

Commissioner Higgins would like the County to reach out to University Park Airport to find an update or definitive timeline for this and will bring this back up at a future ARPA meeting.

Kim gave an update of the County's ARPA project and the current total allocation is \$33.1 million.

John stated the ARPA grant agreements that the Board took action on the Board of Commissioners meeting this morning will be signed and Richard will be working on getting the funds to the three local pools.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023
PAGE 2

The Centre Kitchen Collection ARPA request letter of support was sent to them. Kim stated once they forward their grant agreement to the County, then we will create a grant agreement between the organization and the County for \$20,000 in ARPA funding.

Kim stated the Centre Crest project is \$5 million of directly eligible ARPA funds and \$3 million of not directly eligible funds. Commissioner Dershem would like to purchase the HVAC equipment as soon as possible, John stated we are in a holding period currently from the architect but would ask for an update this afternoon when he meets with them. Lee was on the Centre Crest roof yesterday and knows what exactly the scope of work will be required to renovate it.

Kim stated we could expend the restricted bucket or ARPA to unrestricted bucket of the \$11.5 million to show that it has been spent. Some people move money to general funds or other special funds.

IV. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

V. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Commissioner Concepcion seconded by Commissioner Dershem, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 AM.

ATTEST:

John Franek Jr.

Administrator