

**COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION**  
**August 3, 2020**

**Present at the meeting were**

**Commissioners:**

Brian S. Allen - Chairman  
Gary R. Eby – Vice-Chairman  
Brenda L. Watson - Secretary  
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk  
William R. Bunt – Solicitor

**Present from the Press:** None

**Present from the Public via Phone/Onsite:** Alane Balchunas, Karen Barclay, Zoe Burd, Frank Campbell, Jared Charles, Noah Cline, Donna Cohick, Gene Cohick, Rich Fultz, Dave Hammar, John Holman, Sarah Keller, Kim McMullen, John McTernan, Ann Miller, Rich Pluta, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Alyson Thebes, Allyson Valentine, and Greg Wirth

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on August 3, 2020 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted via telephone conference and in person at the Extension Office Meeting Room. The meeting was recorded by the County and John McTernan/John Holman.

**Public Comments:** Alane Balchunas commented on the article she saw in the July 30<sup>th</sup> Perry County Times regarding the \$4.2 million CARES Act grant funding. She questioned why a grant coordinator was being hired and what the role of the individual would be. Ms. Balchunas also asked how transparent the grant process would be and questioned what SEDA-COG's role in the process would be. She asked if there would be regular updates on the grant distribution to the public. Ms. Balchunas asked if the consulting firm currently under contract with the County would be considered to handle the grant administration. She also asked about the timeline of the grant funding distribution and said she expected updates on the process moving forward.

Ann Miller questioned how would groups be notified about the CARES Act grant funding and the application process.

John McTernan, representing Case and Cares, presented information on recent deaths of the elderly caused by the admission of sick individuals into assisted living facilities. He stated that he was concerned that Perry County was a part of the disrespect to the elderly and stated that he had provided information to the Commissioners earlier in the year regarding violations against the elderly. He commented that Potter County was in compliance with elderly laws. Mr. McTernan asked if the Commissioner had made a determination of whether the County was in compliance with the law regarding the elderly. He also requested a copy of the Perry County Area Agency on Aging's written policies and procedures showing that the County is in compliance regarding investigations. He asked for a meeting with Solicitor Bunt and the Commissioners regarding these issues.

John Holman questioned who had been contacted and verified that the County was in compliance. He also asked for the policies and procedure to conduct elder investigations. Mr. Holman requested a meeting with the Commissioners.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Approval of the Warrant List:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the warrant list dated August 4, 2020 in the amount of \$650,447.24. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Title IV-D Cooperative Agreement regarding funding for Domestic Relations. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the reappointment of Kathleen Bentley to the MH/IDD Advisory Board. Commissioner Eby stated that both Ms. Bentley Mr. Burns are very active with the board and are highly recommended. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the reappointment of Michael Burns to the MH/IDD Advisory Board. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion the approve the letter of support for the Perry County Council of the Arts’ application for an Our Town Grant. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. Commissioner Watson explained that this letter of support relates to the second phase of the downtown revitalization project. She said the County will not be providing any funding or administration to the grant. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the agreement for architectural services with Reed E. Hoffman in the amount of \$2,500 for an ADA restroom and accessibility upgrade project. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Perry County Area Agency on Aging contract (listed below). Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>	<u>Contract Dates</u>
Addus Health Care Inc.	Personal Care Services	\$19.23/hour	2% increase	7/1/20 – 6/30/23

**Employee Status:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to accept the retirement of Jeanne Johnson, Clerk Typist in the Children & Youth Service Department, effective August 15, 2020. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve, based on the recommendation of the Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts and after review of the application, the appointment of Judy Janis to the position of Part Time Clerk in the Prothonotary’s Office effective August 10, 2020 at an hourly rate of \$14.53. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Solicitors Report:** None

**Public Comments:** None

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Eby made a motion to adjourn at 10:38 a.m. to Salary Board. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

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Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

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Brenda L. Watson, Secretary