

**COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION**  
**September 28, 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:** Karen Anderson, Alane Balchunas, Frank Campbell, Jasmine Colbert, Jason Finnerty, Rich Fultz, John Holman, Dave Magee, John McTernan, Ann Miller, Andy Pepper, Cindy Roney, Jim Scott, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Randy Waggoner, and Greg Wirth

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on September 28, 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 Holman.

**Public Comments:** Alane Balchunas thanked Jim T. Ryan, Staff Writer of the Perry County Times, for his September 24<sup>th</sup> article regarding third party mail-in ballot applications being sent to Perry County residents.

Dave Magee thanked the Commissioner that is a member of the HATS Committee, as the participation has resulted in a grant for a much-needed bridge project in Marysville.

John Holman stated he was following up on the complaint that he and John McTernan submitted to the Area Agency on Aging as they had not heard back in five days. He asked if the Commissioners would follow up to see why a response has not been issued.

John McTernan said that on August 31<sup>st</sup> he had submitted a complaint to the Area Agency on Aging and had not heard anything back. He asked Commissioner Eby if he had spoken to Mr. Wirth about their complaint. He stated that the complaint from five years ago is ongoing and it is currently valid. Mr. McTernan asked of the Area Agency on Aging is going to investigate the complaint.

John Holman stated that the County Commissioners had called to set up a meeting with him, Commissioner Eby, Solicitor Bunt, and Director Wirth to discuss the County's compliance regarding elder abuse investigations. He commented that he came to the meeting, but they would not consent to having Mr. McTernan on the phone or being recorded. Mr. Holman stated that Commissioner Eby said they could schedule another meeting and he asked if a decision had been made to have another meeting. He also asked if there would be a public hearing. He stated again that he had not heard back regarding the complaint.

Karen Anderson asked for an update on the Duncannon District Justice and also questioned if the County is still paying two people to do the job.

Randy Waggoner stated that the Centre Township Tax Collector has been hospitalized, but said that her assistant has stepped up to fill the role in the township. He commented that the assistant will be appointed

in the short term to collect taxes and he said he will provide information that can be posted on the County website.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Approval of Warrant List(s):** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Warrant List dated September 29, 2020 in the amount of \$841,600.28. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion and noted that the list contains CARES Act funding allocations that is being reimbursed back to the General Fund. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Warrant List dated September 23, 2020 in the amount of \$317.07. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the Warrant List dated September 21, 2020 in the amount of \$15,200.59, and noted that the amount would be reimbursed back to the General Fund as a CARES Act expense. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the listing of CARES Act Block Grant allocations in the total amount of \$355,442 (list attached). Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. Commissioner Eby abstained, stated that he would not be voting due to his involvement with two organizations on the listing. Motion carried.

**Employee Status:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the termination of Thomas Cervin, Full Time Correctional Officer, at the Perry County Prison effective September 23, 2020. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to accept the resignation of Ashley Mitchell, Deputy Prothonotary, in the Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts Department effective October 9, 2020. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to rescind the action previously taken accepting Anna Shenk's letter of resignation. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Public Comments:** John McTernan provided information to Commissioner Eby on his radio show and invited him on the show on Friday. He stated that he was on the phone during the meeting Mr. Holman had with him, Solicitor Bunt, and Mr. Wirth. He commented that Solicitor Bunt called John Holman a liar, and asked that Commissioner Eby keep the meetings in order and requested that Solicitor Bunt apologize to Mr. Holman.

John Holman stated that the Area Agency on Aging refused to accept his complaint, and asked Commissioner Eby and Solicitor Bunt if this was a violation of state/federal law. He stated that no one knows the laws regarding the elder abuse investigations and asked if this was a true statement. Mr. Holman stated he had documentation regarding laws and the set of procedures for conducting investigation from another state agency. Mr. Holman stated that everyone must follow the same federal law.

Dave Magee made a request that the Commissioners consider the employment of a part time librarian at the Perry Historians. He said this would enhance access to the records.

Alane Balchunas stated that the call had dropped at 10:22 a.m. and the sound quality of the meeting had regressed and needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Allen stated that the next meeting would be held at the Commissioners’ Meeting Room, not the Extension Meeting Room.

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Eby made a motion to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. 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

CARES Act Funding Allocations

Name - Organization-Business-Applicant	Approved Amount
Carol's Cleaning	\$ 5,000
New Bloomfield Fire Company Inc.	\$ 90,000
The Perry Historians	\$ 27,709
Newport Revitalization & Preservation Society	\$ 18,400
Marysville-Rye Library Association	\$ 28,369
Watts-Buffalo Community Center	\$ 6,433
The New Village Square Diner	\$ 15,000
Perry County Conservation District	\$ 4,000
Farmers Daughters Café	\$ 16,807
Community Library of Western Perry County	\$ 7,717
County Seat Restaurant LLC	\$ 5,365
Pfoutz Valley United Methodist Church	\$ 20,581
Liverpool Area Recreation Association Inc.	\$ 11,382
Central Perry Community Senior Citizens Center Inc	\$ 13,464
Marysville Fire Company	\$ 4,014
Newport Incarnation United Church of Christ	\$ 6,500
D&A Private Label Inc.	\$ 25,000
Liverpool Volunteer Fire Company	\$ 12,383
New Bloomfield Public Library	\$ 14,872
Historical Society of Perry County	\$ 22,446
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 355,442</b>