

**COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION**  
**May 3, 2021**

**Present at the meeting were**

**Commissioners:**

Brian S. Allen – Chairman  
Gary R. Eby – Vice-Chairman  
Brenda L. Watson – Secretary  
Bill Bunt – Solicitor  
Gladys Carns – Deputy Chief Clerk

**Present from the Press:** None

**Present from the Public via WebEx Video/Telephone or In Person:** Ed Albright, Karen Anderson, Karen Barclay, Frank Campbell, Bonnie Delancey, Jason Finnerty, Jim Frank, Rich Fultz, Jan Gibboney, Sarah Keller, Dave Magee, Marty Malone, Kim McMullen, Rich Pluta, Marty Smith, Allie Thebes, Dave Unger, Randy Waggoner, Heather Kelly-Weisen, and Melanie Wertz

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 3, 2021 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted via WebEx telephone/video conference and in person. The meeting was recorded by the County.

**Announcements/Updates:** Commissioner Watson stated that there will be an Election Board meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. There will be another Election Board meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. We will be meeting all day on May 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. Also, the Election Board will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

**Public Comments:** Rich Fultz stated that the numbers are showing that around 25% will not get the vaccine. According to the eligible County population as of the end of last week 68.32% have received a vaccination. But over the weekend 3% more received a vaccination making the percentage almost 72%. He commented on the four upcoming UPMC Newport clinics and said that clinic information is available on the County website and social media. Mr. Fultz stated that permission is needed by the organizations holding the clinics as to whether communications, such as press releases, may be released to the public. Perry Physicians will continue to give vaccinations as long as there is a need. The retail pharmacies will continue to receive vaccines which includes West Perry Pharmacy, the Rite Aid pharmacies and Weis pharmacy. The Medicine shoppe and Newport Pharmacy are waiting for vaccines. Mr. Fultz stated the positively rate continues to go up in the County.

Dave Magee stated that the Marysville lease for Lions Club Park is being worked on. They hope to have everything approved soon. This project will benefit many people and it will be good for all. But help is needed for the funding to avoid a tax increase. The amount needed is 1.2 million dollars so help is needed from friends.

Sarah Keller thanked the County Emergency Management for all the efforts in dealing with the pandemic. It is dynamic situation with changes happening very rapidly.

Jason Finnerty stated that they are down to their final 10 days for the Picture Perry surveys. We have 882 responses returned. He said that emails have been sent out to the municipalities. And some municipalities have responded. He stated that the survey is available on the Perry County Planning Commission website and hardcopies may also be requested through the Commissioners' Office or the Planning Commission Office. Also, hardcopies were given to the New Bloomfield Senior Center.

Marty Malone spoke for both himself and Jim Frank from Lehman Engineers. They wanted to thank the Commissioners and Chief Clerk Hines for the confidence in Lehman Engineers. They are looking forward to a true partnership with Perry County and very excited to start this.

Karen Anderson had concerns about the upcoming Primary Election. She would appreciate more advanced notice if volunteers are needed so they can adjust their schedules. The Director of Elections should communicate the times that volunteers are needed.

Melanie Wertz requested that the Director of Elections communicate with the Democratic committee. She specifically demanded that her emails be responded to.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Solicitor Bunt opened proposals for office space for Magisterial District Court 41-3-03.

- Glenn E. Smithgall: Rent \$43,200/year with a five year rate of \$216,000
- Cove Center: \$8,275.45/ month. This will be effective January 1, 2022

The proposals will be reviewed in detail.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the SEDA-COG Subrecipient agreement for FFY 2016 in the amount of \$22,755.04 for the Duncannon Borough water metering project. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the SEDA-COG Subrecipient agreement for FFY 2017 in the amount of \$78,360 for the Duncannon Borough water metering project. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the 2020 Professional & Administrative Services agreement with SEDA-COG in the amount of \$58,400. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion and thanked Heather Kelly-Weisen and her staff for spending a considerable amount of time explaining all the different steps. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Multi-Party Geospatial Data-Sharing agreement. Commissioner Eby asked if there would be fee and commented that it was time that we got into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with this kind of technology. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson make a motion to amend the agenda for the Cooperative Block Grant Agreement Amendment for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion to amendment to the agenda. All agreed. Motion carried. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cooperative Block Grant Agreement for the Area Agency for Aging. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Public Comments:** Dave Magee was offended by comments made toward the Director of Elections and stated she does her job.

Solicitor Bunt added that he agreed with Mr. Magee. The Director of Elections is a dedicated employee and is following directions as instructed. One of the problems may be that there has not been an Election Board meeting held yet. He stated that criticism should be of the process not the person.

Marty Malone is looking forward to meeting with the Commissioners in person.

Karen Anderson asked to be mindful of future elections by having Election Board meetings earlier. Also, she asked if Picture Perry surveys could be condensed for future surveys.

Melanie Wertz asked again for more communication from the Elections office.

Commissioner Watson understands Ms. Wertz frustrations but the Board doesn't appreciate the way in which things are brought across. Commissioner Watson welcomes anyone to email her with concerns.

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Eby made a motion to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

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Gladys Carns, Deputy Chief Clerk

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Brenda L. Watson, Secretary