

## COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

May 10, 2021

### Present at the meeting were

#### Commissioners:

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

**Present from the Press:** None

**Present from the Public via WebEx Video/Telephone or In Person:** Karen Anderson, Alane Balchunas, Karen Barclay, Donna Cohick, Jason Finnerty, Adrian Fogle, Jim Frank, Rich Fultz, Jan Gibboney, Sarah Keller, Wayne Leshar, Kim McMullen, Kyle Miller, Rich Pluta, Bob Ressler, Marty Smith, Wes Smith, Ken Utsick, Melanie Wertz, and Josh Wilson

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 10, 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 acknowledged Alyson Thebes for her creative use of grant funding to procure a robot for the Area Agency on Aging. She commented that the robot would be used to access the County nursing homes and communicate with the residents, since the Aging staff have been unable to enter the facilities due to the pandemic.

Commissioner Watson congratulated Krista Pontius, agriculture teacher at Greenwood School District, for being selected as the 2021 Top Teacher on LIVE with Kelly and Ryan. Ms. Pontius won \$10,000 for herself and \$10,000 for the school. Commissioner Watson acknowledged Ms. Pontius' dedication to her students, as well as the agricultural field and the community.

Commissioner Allen commented that drug overdoses and suicides increased in 2020 per information he had received from Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission. He said that the increase was attributed to the COVID lockdown

**Public Comments:** Coroner Bob Ressler thanked Commissioner Watson and her husband for providing a power stretcher to his office.

Jason Finnerty stated that this is the last week for the Picture Perry surveys. He said that once the survey timeframe ends, tabulation will begin on the results. He also commented that a total of 926 surveys had been completed. Mr. Finnerty thanked the groups that partnered with the Planning Commission to make the effort a success.

Wes Smith said that the Emergency Health Services Federation would be hosting free Emergency Medical Responder classes for Perry County residents. He commented that interested individuals should contact their local ambulance service to register for the class.

Rich Fultz stated that approximately 19,000 County residents have been vaccinated to date, equating to about 40% of the County population. He said if he adjusted this amount to take into account individuals under 18 and those that will not get the vaccine, the percentage is about 75%. Mr. Fultz said that PEMA had contacted him about vaccines that need to be used by the end of the month, but he said the demand in

the County has decreased. Mr. Fultz said that most County residents that would like to get the vaccine have received it at this point. He said the retail pharmacy vaccination program continues and there are enrolled providers in the County, including Perry Physicians. He commented that he is working with the Department of Health to get a list of all enrolled providers in the County.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Approval of the Warrant List(s):** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the 2021 warrant lists totaling \$356,719.88. He commented that approximately \$25,000 of the warrant list total is comprised of ERAP and rental assistance payments, that will be reimbursed through grant funding. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the revised service agreement with Clear Ballot in the amount of \$27,140. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

**Employee Status:** Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the appointment of the following individuals to the position of Part Time Correctional Officer at the Perry County Prison effective May 17, 2021 at an hourly rate of \$20.83. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

- Bradley A. Ferringer
- Joseph M. Reisinger
- Nikki J. Rohrbaugh
- Daniel B. Shaffer Jr.

**Solicitor's Report:** None

**Announcements/Updates:** Commissioner Eby stated that Perry County would be forming an advisory committee focused on transportation and shared ride services. He said he would like to see representation from all parts of the County and hoped to have about 5 to 7 people on the committee. Commissioner Eby said the committee would focus on improving the transportation and shared ride program in the County.

**Public Comments:** Jason Finnerty thanked Tuscarora Township and North East Madison Township for completing all nine Picture Perry surveys.

Karen Anderson questioned how the number of vaccinated individuals in Perry County is being reached. Rich Fultz stated that the information is from the COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard located on the PA Department of Health's website. Ms. Anderson also asked if the number is based on the vaccinated person's zip code or the zip code of the location where the person was vaccinated. Mr. Fultz confirmed that the person's zip code is used to calculate the data.

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Allen reminded everyone that the Election Board would be holding a meeting at 11:00 a.m. and the same call in/log in information would apply for participation in the meeting.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 10:24 a.m. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

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Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

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Brenda L. Watson, Secretary