

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION
September 27, 2021

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

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

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public via WebEx Video/Telephone or In Person: Polly Eby, Jason Finnerty, Greg Fuller, Sid McConahy, Craig Sheaffer, Jim Scott, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, Jim Wilson

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 27, 2021 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted in person and via WebEx telephone/video conference at the Ickesburg Fire Hall. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Watson reminded those in attendance that another town hall meeting was being held for the public to provide input on usage of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. She said the meeting would be held on September 29 at the Landisburg Fire Hall at 7 p.m. She also commented that ARPA public hearings for those organizations requesting funding, would be held on October 1 from 9 am – 11 am and October 4 from 1 pm – 3 pm and 6 pm – 8 pm. Commissioner Watson said that those interested in scheduling a public hearing should call the Commissioners' Office at 717-582-2131 ext. 4100.

Commissioner Allen thanked the Ickesburg Fire Company for allowing the Commissioners to use their facility to hold the meeting.

Public Comments: Jim Scott asked if the requests for ARPA funding needed to be COVID related.

Jason Finnerty provided an update on the County Comprehensive Plan. He said he was still working with municipalities to partner with the County with the County and participate in the plan. Mr. Finnerty commented that he had attended a Greenwood Township Planning Commission meeting and explained the Comprehensive Plan. He said all the municipalities had received the 2022 LPA agreement, which he explained is the mechanism that they can use to have their upcoming projects be included in the County's Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Finnerty explained that the goal is to have the municipalities sign on to the County plan which would eliminate the need for them to do their own plans. He said he will be attending meetings in Buffalo and Watts townships in October.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2021 Commissioners' Meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Approval of the Warrant List(s): Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the warrant lists (9/14/21, 9/24/21, and 9/28/21) totaling \$725,479. Commissioner Eby, after consulting with the Fiscal Department and calling out that ERAP funds were included in the total amount, seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Eby made a motion, reluctantly, after reviewing the contract with the Maintenance Director, to approve the service agreement renewal with Johnson controls for the Courthouse fire alarm inspections services at an annual cost of \$4,059.78. Maintenance Director, Marty Smith commented that the contract locked in the rate for 5 years and included the option to renew the contract each year. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Sid McConahy, from Mission Critical Partners, stated that the County had received three proposals for broadband service.

- Centre WISP, doing business as Black Bear Fiber – they failed to follow the RFP guidelines and are no longer recommended for consideration
- Upward Broadband – provided a proposal for entire County coverage at a cost of \$2,685,00
- Zito Media – provided a proposal for fiber to home coverage to the western part of the County at a cost of \$1,560,000

Mr. McConahy recommended entering into negotiations with Upward Broadband and Zito Media. He said he is aware of current service concerns with Zito Media, and commented that the negotiation process would be a prime opportunity for the County to obtain from Zito their plan to increase the reliability of their current service. Mr. McConahy stated that based on this plan the County could make a determination if they would like to continue negotiations and reach a final agreement with Zito. He said that the current Zito service is through coax cable, which was inherited from Nittany Media, and this is a different service than fiber to home proposal provided.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to authorize the County to enter into negotiations with Upward Broadband and Zito Media. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Jim Scott asked if fiber service is available in other areas of the County. Sid McConahy said the service to the rest of the County would be a wireless service as proposed by Upward Broadband. He did say there was a possibility that locations where there is no coax cable, fiber may be an option. Commissioner Eby questioned what the household rates would be and Mr. McConahy said the rates were included with the Zito proposal, but the rates were not clear in the Upward Broadband proposal. He confirmed that rates would be part of the negotiations. Mr. McConahy also confirmed that the concerns with Zito services would also be included in the negotiations.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-11 Authorizing the submission of a PA Department of Transportation Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant application for the downtown revitalization project. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-12 Authorizing the Chief Clerk to execute the reimbursement agreement with the PA Department of Transportation for the Center Road Bridge replacement project. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the MH/IDD contracts for Early Intervention, Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, and Mental Health for fiscal years 2020/21 and 2021/22 in the total amount of \$244,691 (attached). Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the 2021/2022 In-Home Contracts for Children & Youth Services (attached). Commissioner Eby seconded the motion and commented that he had spoken with the Children & Youth Director regarding the Tandem contract and his questions were answered. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comments: Polly Eby questions how many times per year Johnson Controls performs the fire alarm inspection service. Marty Smith confirmed that the inspection is once a year and includes any parts.

Greg Fuller asked why Centre WISP was not being considered for the County broadband project. He said the company had contacted the township and they said that if the township could provide a tower location, they could supply service to the township. He asked if the township chooses to partner with Centre WISP, could the township come to the County for funding. Commissioner Watson commented that any municipality that decides to go a different way regarding broadband, she requested that those municipalities please work with the County to ensure there is no duplication of service. She also thanked Sid McConahy for his expertise and guidance through the broadband project so far.

Jim Wilson questioned what Centre WISP would need to do to be considered by the County, as the motion made at the meeting was to begin negotiations with the two remaining vendors. Sid McConahy said they failed to meet the requirements of the RFP guidelines and cannot be considered for County funding, but that does not prohibit them from being considered by a municipality for independent deployment.

Jim Scott, Veterans Affairs Director, said he will be attending the evening Commissioners' meetings moving forward to make himself available to veterans that cannot contact him during regular business hours. Commissioner Eby thanked Mr. Scott for his outreach efforts and the work he does setting the bar for veteran services.

Comments from the Press: None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Brenda L. Watson, Secretary

2020 – 2021 MH/IDD Contracts

Provider / Summary of Services	Contract #	Status	Previous Contract Total	Current Contract Total	Increase / Decrease
<i>Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities</i>					
KEYSTONE SERVICE SYSTEMS INC	ID20-0013	Increase	\$102,058	\$105,905	\$3,847
Amendment - Increase due to additional services billed					
IDD Services - Residential (prior year retained earnings for residential program improvements)					
<i>Mental Health</i>					
PERRY COUNTY (PRISON)	MH20-0019	Increase	\$26,185	\$26,671	\$486
Amendment - Increase due to additional services billed					
MH Services - Transitional and community integration services (one half of the counselor position salary and benefits at prison)					

2021 – 2022 MH/IDD Contracts

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21/22 In-Home Contracts----PERRY CO. CHILDREN & YOUTH

ABC Alternative Behavior Consultants, LLC – rate increase \$1.00 - \$107.00/hr. FAST Assessments , SKILLS & Reunification
- rate increase \$2.00 - \$208.00/session TIPS
- rate increase by \$1.50 - \$52.00/hr. Visitation
- No Increase Psychological Testing - \$110.00/hr
- No Increase Bonding & Diagnostic Evaluations \$117.00/hr

Avanco International ---CAPS Data Program--- No Increase - \$24,976.60/yr.

Benjamin Yoffee – back up for Solicitor Services—No Increase \$82.50/hr.
-Additional rate of \$150.00/hr. (no increase) for appeals and termination preparation and proceedings

Children’s Resource Ctr.-Abuse Med. Eval. –No increase - \$525.00/evaluation

Chrystal Prosser—Guardian Ad Litem— rate increase \$2.50/hr. - \$77.50/hr.

Diakon – Project Care – No increase-\$9,070.33/mo. - \$108,844 yr.

Diakon - SPIN – no rate increase - \$96.70
-PFI – no rate increase - \$71.40
-Perry Hope – no rate increase - \$91.80
-Weekend Alternative Program- rate increase of \$10.57 - \$184.00
-Center Point –no rate increase-\$169.22
-Bridge Program – no rate increase -\$47.07

Family Link Services – No Rate Increase- 90.00/hr. – Coordinate/Facilitate FGDM

Julie Martzall ---Quality Assurance – rate increase - \$10.00/hr - \$60.00/hr.

JusticeWorks

- Rate increase \$2.00 - \$79.00/hr. – Truancy Programs
- No rate increase - \$82.00/hr. – STOPP Program
- No rate increase - \$80.00/hr. – VIP Program (JPO)
- No rate increase - \$60.00/hr. – Community Service Program (JPO)
- No rate increase - \$150.00/group - Thinking for a Change Program
- No rate increase - \$250.00/referral - \$3,000.00/conference – Family Group Decision Making

Kevin Prosser – Guardian Ad Litem – rate increase \$2.50/hr. -\$77.50/hr.

Newport Counseling Center – No rate increase -\$70.00/hr. for Individual Outpatient Therapy
- No rate increase -\$105.00/1.5 hr. for CANS

Tandem, LLC – Family Preservation/Reunification---Addendum-New- \$9,916.67/mo.

Tri- County Community Action – No rate increase -\$200/Ages & Stages Screening

William R. Bunt – Agency solicitor – No rate increase - \$62,400/yr.
-Additional rate of \$150.00/hr. (appeals and termination)- (No Increase)
- Additional rate of \$20.00/hr. (for intern work)